

THE GATEWAY

volume XCVI number 16 • the official student newspaper at the university of alberta • www.gateway.ualberta.ca • thursday, 3 november, 2005

Education forum examines PSE's future



LEARNING ALBERTANS (Left to right) Minister Dave Hancock, NDP MLA Raj Pannu, and SU President Graham Lettner.

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Deputy News Editor

With the hopes of shifting Alberta's resource-based economy to one based on knowledge, nearly 250 postsecondary education leaders gathered at the Shaw Conference Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday at the A Learning Alberta Forum.

They discussed the future of advanced learning in the province, and the ongoing review of postsecondary education. The review has been underway since January of this year, and though anticipation is high for the formal announcement of its findings, Advanced Education Minister Dave Hancock said that there's still work to be done before new policies can emerge.

"I know that one thing on your minds now is, 'What's next?' Obviously, I'm not in a position today to tell you all of the things that will be done, or even to cherry-pick five or six initiatives," Hancock said, adding that this would undermine the role of the Steering Committee that led the review.

Since the inception of the review ten months ago, the committee, comprised of 17 Albertans, has compiled

concerns and ideas surrounding postsecondary education to build a framework for new policies.

Alexis Pepin, former president of the U of A's Graduate Students' Association and a member of the committee, said her focus was to listen to the dialogue and assess whether there's anything that has been missed in the process so far, and, ultimately, to see if things are going in the right direction.

"The Minister's Forum is important because it's a little bit of a validation issue," she said. "We wanted to see what people thought of what we had so far in terms of our compilation of everything we've heard to draft policy priorities, so that's important."

The forum focused on making advanced education and learning as inclusive as possible, pointing to the important role of technology to connect the rural and urban communities in the province and promote links between information and ideas.

Students' Union President Graham Lettner, who was a panel member at the forum, addressed some key issues such as the value of education in today's society.

PLEASE SEE FORUM • PAGE 2

Alberta must invest in education: Hancock

A Q&A with Alberta's Advanced Education Minister on this week's forum

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Deputy News Editor

On the first day of the A Learning Alberta Forum, the Gateway sat down for a one-on-one interview with Alberta's Minister of Advanced Education, Dave Hancock, to discuss the possible directions of postsecondary education in the province following the current review.

Gateway: The forum has brought up issues surrounding technology and its use in postsecondary education. How can the province use technology to improve education?

Dave Hancock: I think what will come out of the review is the need to have various access points for people entering education, and technology is certainly a major part of that. Particularly since we have the SuperNet connecting all communities in Alberta and we're proceeding on the digital library program, we have opportunities at every level to give people different access than they've had before—not to be replaced with the experience of going to a residential campus or those kinds of things, but to provide more and better options for delivery.

GW: How will this technology

improve education for Albertans in rural communities?

DH: From a rural perspective, you have a lot of people who live in areas who have talents and abilities that are, perhaps, underutilized, who want to do something differently, but they're not going to move to Edmonton or Calgary to become a nurse or a teacher. They're not going to because of either job-related or family-related issues, or cultural issues.

"I think what will come out of the review is the need to have various access points for people entering education, and technology is certainly a major part of that."

DAVE HANCOCK

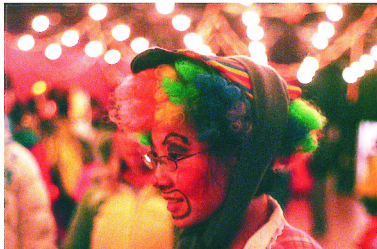
To the extent that we can take programs either electronically or physically to them, we can use that potential and we can maximize that potential. So, you know, Bonnyville is building a learning centre and they will want to

bring in trades education, and they will also want to bring in nursing education or teaching education. The University of Alberta is cooperating with colleges around the province to deliver education and arts degrees through the college frameworks into the communities that those colleges serve.

GW: The proposed K-14, an initiative that would have government pay for the first two years of postsecondary education, is important for improving access, but how would the proposal affect learning?

DH: That's one of the things you have to take into account. ... If one of the things we want to do is to improve transition from high school to postsecondary, in all types of postsecondary, our transition rates are way too low. Seventy per cent of new jobs today require postsecondary education, so one of the ideas might be that if education is a public good and if it's essential, then we should pay for the first two years of postsecondary in the same way that we used to believe that high school was what you needed to have and we paid for the whole thing. That's a great concept. So then we have to say, "We may be encouraging transition, but is there space for them?"

PLEASE SEE HANCOCK • PAGE 2



HELEN HUNTER

BOO! A Campus Food Bank volunteer scares up food donations on Halloween.

'Trick-or-Eat' campaign restocks Campus Food Bank's shelves

DEREK LARSON
News Writer

Some would say that university students are too old to go trick-or-treating, but luckily enough, 150 volunteers have found a convenient loophole in the unwritten rules of Halloween, all the while helping out a good cause.

The students took part in the ninth annual Trick-or-Eat food drive, a joint venture between the Campus Food Bank (CFB) and Safewalk, which took place on Monday. The event enlisted the aid of University students to go

door-to-door in communities around campus asking for non-perishable food donations for the CFB.

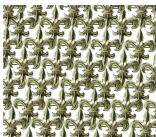
"There's only one night a year when people don't mind somebody knocking on their door interrupting their supper asking for food, and that's Halloween," explained David Feldman, executive director of the CFB.

According to Feldman, the event has been growing over the years; last year, roughly 150 costume-clad volunteers brought in over 9000 lbs of food for the CFB.

PLEASE SEE FOOD BANK • PAGE 2

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A mirror image

Like Canada, campus has two languages. Read the debut of *Le Miroir*, an editorially separate French supplement to the Gateway.

LE MIROIR, PAGE 10



Ready for the football?

The Golden Bears roll into the post-season this weekend, as they host the Manitoba Bisons at Foote Field.

SPORTS, PAGE 18

THE GATEWAY

thursday, 3 november, 2005
volume XXVI number 16Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 11 000
ISSN 0848-356XSuite 2-14
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Gateway Student Journalism Society
(G.S.J.S.), a student-run, autonomous,
apollonian and non-profit organization,
operating in accordance with the
Societies Act of Alberta.THE GATEWAY is proud to be
a founding member of the
Canadian Writers Press.

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Super Cool Scan opto of film scanner. Adobe InDesign
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images. Adobe Photoshop is used for raster
images. Adobe Acrobat is used to format PDF files which
are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the
composition press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles,
and weights of Frutiger, Knappe, Joanna, and Arima. The
Macintosh is the Gateway's color page. The Gateway's
games of choice are Red Bull and World of Warcraft.

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Campus groups come together to support Food Bank's campaign

FOOD BANK • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Residents in the surrounding areas, are very supportive of the event, Feldman said. In fact, some people leave entire boxes full of food on their doorsteps.

"We cover approximately 3000 homes in the McKernan, Garneau, Belgravia and Windsor areas," said Feldman. "There's really nothing that I would change directly about it except enlarge the area that it's covering."

Enlargement may indeed be in the future, due to the steady increase in numbers over the past few years. Feldman pegged the unofficial total at 8186 lbs (3721 kg) and expected it to rise, meaning the count will rise from last year.

"I would estimate that our end total will be even closer to 10 000 lbs, but I won't know for a few days," he said.

This food, combined with the food donated for the Christmas season, will keep the food bank well-stocked until February, making Trick-or-Treat the single largest fundraiser for the CFB, Feldman said.

While he expressed hope that the event would continue to grow in the future, Feldman noted that the possibility of enlargement really depends on the volunteers.

"We do a lot of recruitment through student groups and services," said Feldman. "It's very much a joint event between us and the rest of the campus community services on campus."

Representatives of two of those

groups had nothing but glowing remarks for the event. Stephanie Leaf, Vice-President (Public Relations) for the Lister Hall Students' Association, said she expected Lister to contribute between 40 and 50 volunteers (including herself) this year, a sizable chunk of the task force.

"There's really nothing that I would change directly about it except enlarge the area that it's covering."**DAVID FELDMAN,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CAMPUS FOOD BANK**

"It's fun, and for a good cause, which is very, very important," said Leaf.

"Trick-or-Treat is fun, and it's not a huge commitment," added Students' Union President Graham Lettner, who also took part. "It's just a really smart idea."

Feldman is confident that, as long as this enthusiasm continues, the CFB shelves will continue to be stocked by the diligent efforts of goblins and witches.

"Every year, people are more excited and wanting to help us out more and more, and every year the community is more supportive of the event," said Feldman.

Government cautious about spending oil money on PSE

HANCOCK • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Do we need to take the resources, and instead of applying them to two years of free tuition, create more spaces so there's actually a place for everybody that wants to go? There's always choices to be made, and there's always implications of any decisions you make, so you can't just say, "This is the problem; this is the solution," without understanding the ripple effect.

Obviously, it's a simple thing to say K-14, but the roots are more complex. It's a simple thing to say, "Maybe institutions should be allowed to charge what they want to charge for tuition," but then you have to say, "What are the curricular things you have to deal with; how do you do finance? How do you do other things?" The interesting thing about those ideas being on the table is they've provoked other ideas, and they've provoked people saying, "Instead of doing that, how about doing this?"

GW: With the Alberta surplus and the rising price of oil, it seems that the province has a lot of extra funds to invest in education. How will these funds be allocated to postsecondary education to ensure that the result provides a sustainable system?

DH: That's, of course, the problem: that people start with the premise that Alberta has all this wealth, and there-

**YES, MINISTER** Dave Hancock.

fore there's money to do everything. Allocation of scarce resources is the most difficult job in government—when you're in government, resources are always scarce. It doesn't matter how much money you have, people always have \$2 billion more of ideas to do with it. And, of course, the critical thing is sustainability; there's no sense building a system that will only operate for two years and then will have to shut down when the price of oil goes down. ... But the other thing I think we know, and we certainly need to inspire Albertans to think about it and to legitimize their government to take action on, is that investing in education creates wealth.

No guarantee tuition freeze will continue next year

FORUM • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The fact that a 19-year-old student or a 17-year-old student from a high school can get a \$60 000-a-year paying job in the oil field—personally, I don't see that as a success of what Alberta can do, but I look at it as a long-term worry that there's not the impetus to drive people into education," Lettner said, adding that education is what provides sustainable economic opportunities.

Hancock also pointed to the importance of moving towards a knowledge-based economy, citing that 70 per cent of jobs in Alberta require postsecondary education.

"The only way we can attain sustainability is to have a larger number of people with more education, earning more money so they can pay taxes at a lower rate, and still afford the system that we want to accomplish—it's the only formula that works," Hancock

said. "So, investing in education in the short-term builds that long-term economic potential."

Funding was also a major issue on the table. Last year, the province announced a full tuition freeze for the 2005/06 academic year; however, the Minister made no guarantee that this would continue into next year, meaning that tuition in Alberta may see two years of increases.

"Students should plan for a tuition increase," Hancock said.

Despite the willingness to listen to people at the forum, New Democrat MLA and advanced education critic Raj Pannu said the process lacked broad-based consultation and that the forum could have been more inclusive.

"I would have liked to see a more diverse audience," Pannu said.

The Committee has been criticized for lacking more student input, but Pannu argued the process was as

comprehensive as possible, and invited a range of people from the postsecondary community to contribute to the dialogue. Furthermore, she said there's still room for input, and that the process is far from over.

Jon Smith, chair of the Council of Alberta University Students and Vice-President (External) of the University of Calgary Students' Union, said the forum had some obvious flaws.

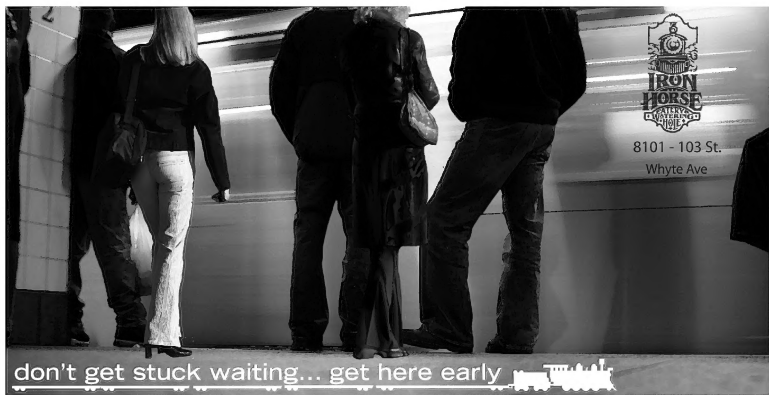
"I feel like we're being asked the same things that we were in the regional consultations, so it's really frustrating. They keep saying the same things, so we'll keep saying the same things back, and it doesn't feel like we're getting anywhere," Smith said. "I think it's time to start seeing some action."

Criticism on the process aside, Lettner said he was glad to be included in the process, and with all the issues at hand, the forum was as progressive

as possible.

"It's a loose-tight kind of thing. You want to be loose enough that you can encompass most of it, but then you want to tighten it back up and get down to business," said Lettner.

As the forum wrapped up, Hancock announced the next steps in the creation of three sub-committees that will each look at one key area prioritized in the discussions so far: diversifying community learning and setting clear targets for improving adult literacy rates; support for Aboriginals learning by establishing a new Aboriginal education division within the Advanced Education department; and transforming the current system to prioritize research and make institutions in the province the best in their class. The sub-committees will report back to the Minister in March 2006, meaning new policies should be in place by September 2006.



Oat research leads to wrinkle therapy

IRIS TSE
Design & Production Editor

If the prospect of injecting purified botulinum toxin ("Botox") into your forehead for wrinkle reduction leaves a lot to be desired, then a new anti-wrinkle therapy using oat extracts is definitely a much more appetizing alternative.

New research conducted by University of Alberta scientists has discovered that beta-glucan, a soluble fibre found in the cell walls of oat kernels, can effectively reduce facial fine lines, deep wrinkles and skin roughness. Unlike Botox injections, this latest version of anti-wrinkle therapy can be applied topically as gels or creams.

While oats have a long history of safe use and have been associated with various commercially available cosmetics with benefits that include smoother appearance of skin, this is the first time anybody has demonstrated that beta-glucan is capable of penetrating the skin and affecting the underlying skin structure. The results of the research, conducted by University spin-off company Ceapro Inc., were published in the October issue of the *International Journal of Cosmetic Science*.

"What's new about all this stuff is that we now have proof that the glucan in these products has a more permanent effect, which was really undiscovered until this time," said Dr Mark Redmond, an alumnus of the U of A and the president and CEO of Ceapro Inc.

"The way a large molecule such as beta-glucan enters the skin is akin to water going through a brick wall: it doesn't go through the bricks, instead it goes through the mortar between the bricks. Similarly, beta-glucan binds the lipids around the cell and then permeates down into the lower epidermal layer," explained Redmond.

"Once beta-glucan enters the skin, it acts as an immune stimulant that promotes tissue repair and regeneration. It works beyond simple skin



SMOOTH Dr Mark Redmond's company uses an oat fibre to fight wrinkles. KATE TWEED

hydration, which was the mode of action presumed by many people before."

Since the cellular mechanism that allows beta-glucan to reduce wrinkles is based on tissue repair and cellular restructuring, beta-glucan proves to have uses beyond wrinkle reduction. It's also a potent stimulant that can activate the immune system into attacking foreign pathogens. Other medical applications for beta-glucan include vaccine delivery and wound repair stimulation for burn victims.

"The thing with burn wounds is that the skin is regenerating. So anytime you change the dressing, you run the risk of pulling cells off the wound," he said.

"But there are these glucan bandages that, when it dries, forms a see-through film that looks similar to those Listerine Pockepacks. And as soon as you put a drop of moisture to that film, it becomes a gel again and the dressing can easily fall off. So anytime you try to change the dressing on somebody's back, or if they have done major reconstructive surgery, it can really help speed up the process of recovery without disrupting the wound site."

Ceapro is currently concentrating their efforts in the "cosmeceutical" field, and the company is discussing collaborating with multinational companies, such as Johnson & Johnson and L'Oréal, to promote their beta-glucan product. The company has developed a way to manufacture a highly concentrated form of beta-glucan.

However, Ceapro is not the only University spin-off company deep in beta-glucan research; Cevena Bioproducts Inc. currently sells a powdered beta-glucan extract product under the name Viscofibre. Unlike the liquid-form developed by Ceapro, Viscofibre is being developed as an additive for the food industry since beta-glucan, ingested in high concentrations, can help lower cholesterol.

"The way we develop our technology is really asking what the scientific basis is, and if the science has any other applications," said Redmond of the various beta-glucan applications. "This is all just good science and understanding how molecular immunology and molecular biology function."

"If you think about porridge, it usually doesn't look quite like this."

Reichert lecturer examines treatment of Holocaust orphans by Catholic Church

NICOLE TOMLINSON
News Staff

Did the Vatican play a role in preventing Jewish children, harboured by the Church and Christian families, from being returned to their community after World War Two? Michael Marrus, speaker for the second annual Toby and Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture, presented new historical evidence that shed light on this controversial question on Sunday.

Marrus, Canada's leading Holocaust expert, spoke about a recently uncovered document written in French in 1946 from the Supreme Congregation of the Holy Office stating, "[A Jewish] child that has been baptized cannot be given to an institution if their Christian education cannot be assured," implying they would not be released to the Jewish community.

The letter also said the Church's policy was to "avoid putting anything in writing" about their position on what should be done with the thousands of orphaned Jewish children around Europe, and "deal with each case individually."

The document further states that Jewish children in Christian custody who were not baptized and lacked living parents, insofar as they were not old enough to decide their own fate,

"should not be turned over to people who have no right to them," implying that reclaiming the children was not a prerogative of the Jews.

Although some have suggested this evidence indicates that Pope Pious XII was a kidnapper and a war criminal, Marrus stressed that the language of the document, and the socio-historical climate in which it was written, must be taken into account before condemning the Vatican.

"Jewish children, survivors of the Holocaust, were alone on highways, in woods and in mountains: tens of thousands of them with nowhere to go. It was clear that it was a desperate situation, but their numbers and locations were unknown," he explained.

Marrus said that the Vatican was likely hesitant to solidify their position on what should be done about the children, preferring to examine the issues case by case because of the ambiguity and variability of facts surrounding the issue.

He also pointed out that the Church's response to releasing baptized Jewish children referred to their surrender to the custody of Jewish institutions, not families.

"Catholic institutions and families rescued Jewish children from the Nazis: these were acts of extraordinary generosity and courage. People

risked their lives to harbour them," he said.

Marrus said attachments formed during the foster care of the children made Christian families and establishments reluctant to relinquish them to Jewish institutions, rather than the children's biological Jewish families.

He concluded that there is evidence that giving Jewish children who had been baptized to Jewish institutions after the war was a problem in the Vatican's eyes. However, he attributed much of the hype about the issue to the culturally induced fear of Jewish assimilation.

"Jewish officials were driven largely by a nightmare inherited from their culture of losing their children to Christians who would take them," he said.

"They were thinking about survival, fearing assimilation and believed that the Christians did not stop at the children's physical rescue, but sought to rescue their souls into the Catholic community."

The annual Toby and Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture is made possible by the couple whose namesake it bears: Saul is a Jewish survivor of the Holocaust who moved to Edmonton after the war. He lost his mother and siblings following the Nazi regime.

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THE GATEWAY



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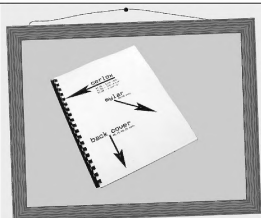
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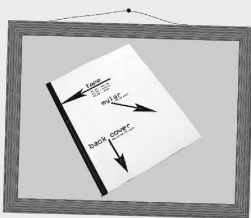
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STREETERS

Compiled and photographed
by Uzma Rajan and Scott Lilwall

On Tuesday, Justice John Gomery released the first phase of his report into the federal sponsorship scandal, which harshly criticized former Liberal Prime Minister Jean Chretien, but not his successor, Paul Martin.

What do you think the government's response to the report should be?



Cindy Fendall
AgFor III

I don't think the Liberals should call an election right now because it'd be bad for them. I definitely don't think they'd have support, but I mean Paul Martin's doing good, saying he didn't have anything to do with it.



Ricky Gurprasad
Science V

I haven't really kept up with the story, so I don't know anything about the issues.



Lisa D'Agostino
Science II

I don't think there's much point calling an election yet. I don't see a better alternative; I don't mind the minority situation.

COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ross Prusakowski

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15 November.

PETITION FLOOD SPARKS BILL

While the insanity brought on by midterm week ended last Friday for most students, Tuesday's meeting of Council prolonged it for student councilors. This was courtesy of a flood of petition questions submitted to Bylaw Committee by various students looking to have referendum or plebiscite questions added to the ballot in the campus-wide elections in March.

As a result of the deluge, Bylaw Committee, the committee of Council responsible for drafting the questions, introduced a bill that would clarify the existing process for drafting questions. Included in their proposals to Council were that students must specify at the time of the drafting of the question whether it will be for a referendum or plebiscite (the latter being non-binding on the SU), and that students be required to pay a deposit of \$25 that would be refunded once a petition garners the signatures of five per cent of students. According to the committee, this was to prevent students from wasting the committee's and Council's time by putting forward questions they have no intention of pursuing. The bill passed first reading after relatively little debate.

PETITION FLOOD SPARKS ANOTHER BILL

Council then considered another bill, this time from Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Jason Tobias, which proposed more substantive changes to the direct democracy processes of the SU. Under Tobias's proposal, proposed questions that would put the SU "in breach of its fiduciary responsibility" could be ruled out of order before going to a vote.

This motion provoked a flurry of debate among councilors over the effect it would have on limiting the provisions of direct democracy in SU bylaws. Tobias argued the motion would allow Council to fulfill its responsibility to both the SU and the students they represent to ensure that the SU is run appropriately.

The Vice-President also decried the current process as Council telling students to lead them all the time, regardless of the ill effects the decisions will have on the SU and students in general.

However, Science councilor Stephen Kirkham and a few other councilors took issue with the motion, calling it against the principles of the referendum and plebiscite legislation that was put in place so every member could put forward a motion. Kirkham also said the bill would introduce subjectivity into the direct democracy process, and questioned the measuring stick Council would use to decide which motions were good and which were bad. Unfortunately for the councilor, the majority of members

sided with Tobias and gave the bill first reading, though not before a pair of clauses were removed that would have allowed Council to reject any question it felt was detrimental to the SU and its members, and ruled out of order questions proposed by a student who "attempts to abuse the direct democracy processes of the Students' Union."

PETITION FLOOD HITS DIRTY

With the conclusion of the legislative portion of their agenda, Council moved on to consideration of the 14 plebiscite and referendum question proposals forwarded to them from the Bylaw Committee. However, prior to the consideration, Tobias rose on a point of order, challenging the twelve proposed questions from student Chris Jones on the basis that they were dilatory and designed to waste Council's time.

After a lengthy consideration of the question, Speaker Gregory Harlow agreed with the Vice-President and struck the questions from the order paper. This prompted Kirkham to challenge the chair's ruling, but after further consideration of the issue, Council upheld Harlow's ruling, likely ensuring that the issue will land before the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board (DIE), the judicial branch of the SU.

PETITION FLOOD TURNS TO PETITION TRICKLE

The decision to strike the twelve questions left Council with just two to consider. As with all proposed questions—at least until Tobias's bill receives second reading—Council's debate was limited to whether the proposed question was legal and met the intent of the member who originally proposed it.

As a result, the first question, which would see students vote on a campus-wide smoking ban and a ban on the sales of tobacco products on University-owned or -leased lands—excluding residences—effective 1 July, 2006, was approved with minimal debate.

On the other proposed petition question, Council once again descended into a sea of procedural motions and debates as it tried to ascertain the legality of the proposal, which would require the SU's bars to charge \$2 for all pints of beer from 1 May, 2006 until 30 April, 2007. While the rationale behind the proposal, moved by student Jason Langston, is supposedly a pilot project to attract people to campus bars, Tobias vigorously tried to have the question ruled out of order.

According to him, the motion would violate provincial guidelines on the sale of alcohol, cause extreme financial distress for the SU and create a very high likelihood that the University would remove the SU from the liquor license under which the SU bars currently operate. Additionally, other councilors noted that if this question did receive the requisite number of signatures to be placed on the ballot and was then passed by a majority of students, the likely outcome would be that the bars cease to exist, or that the SU fee students pay would have to increase massively to balance the losses the SU would be incurring at the bars.

However, due to the nature of the bylaws and the procedure in place for starting petitions, Council's hands were tied and they were forced to approve the petition question.



Graduate Students' Association General Meeting

Monday, November 7, 2005 @ 5:30pm
Tory Lecture B-1

All Graduate Students are called to attend
Important constitutional issues to be discussed
Please visit our website for more info:

www.gsa.ualberta.ca

Memorial student leaders boycott convocation over honorary degree

Degree for Inco CEO and building benefactor Scott Hand draws protests due to company's alleged involvement with environmental, human rights abuses

ALEX BELL
The Muse

ST JOHN'S (CUP)—The controversial presentation of an honorary degree to Inco chief executive officer Scott Hand overshadowed the student graduation ceremony at this year's Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) fall convocation.

Hand recently donated \$20 million to fund the Inco Innovation Centre, a new building on MUN's campus with research facilities dedicated to geology, metallurgy and other areas of interest to the Voisey's Bay mining operation.

Students from the Society for Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR) have protested Inco's campus involvement since the project began due to company's alleged links to human rights abuses and heavy pollution. But they got a boost from the student body on Friday as MUN Student Union President Cletus Flaherty and Graduate Students' Union President Stefan Jensen both refused to attend convocation.

"Getting that honorary degree, in a sense, cheapened the accomplishments of Memorial's real graduates," said Flaherty. "It also devalued honorary degrees, and deserving honorary degree candidates."

Hand refused interviews with local media, but communications officials said he would address issues in his speech to graduates. However, there was no explicit mention of the debate within his speech.

"My legal training gave me

important lessons," said Hand. "It taught me to look beyond the obvious, to consider not just the first, but also the second, and third-tier consequences of a decision, and that the first opinion, or the loudest one, is not always the best."

Near the end of his speech he added, "Finally, look at how you can make a difference in this world from within the system, because—like it or not—that's where you'll make the most impact."

"Getting that honorary degree, in a sense, cheapened the accomplishments of Memorial's real graduates. It also devalued honorary degrees, and deserving honorary degree candidates."

CLETUS FLAHERTY,
PRESIDENT, MUN STUDENT UNION

At the ceremony, one graduate booted the first mention of Hand's name and two graduates left the ceremony as he took to the podium. Paul Schiralli-Earle, graduating with his Master's in political science, even refused to shake MUN President Axel Meisen's hand because of the award.

"The last time I checked, honorary degrees were given to citizens who

contributed to society [positively] as opposed to contributed in a negative manner," said Schiralli-Earle. "I think it's kind of insulting."

Flaherty applauded Schiralli-Earle's move. "If I see that man walking down the street, I'm going to ask him if I can shake his hand," he said. "That was a pretty big move—not to shake the hand of the president in front of all those people."

Hand's appearance did not outrage all students, however. "I didn't even know he was speaking until today," said political science undergraduate Wes Whalen. "[But] I thought it was great."

Flaherty and Chris Shortall of CESR blame the University for the small number of graduates aware that Hand would receive the award that day.

CESR members waited outside the auditorium to present graduates and their families with mock degrees, stating the alleged offences against Inco and bearing Memorial's logo in the top-right corner.

Laura Molyneux, spectator at the event and volunteer for CESR, also walked out on the ceremony and joined in the demonstration.

"Nobody really knows how much damage he has done, and I think it's really important that we are here to make a little bit of a statement about that," she said.

Flaherty said he has no problems with benefactors receiving honorary degrees provided they also contribute positively either artistically, academically or through overall contributions to society.

McMaster University students vote to put an end to a Coke-only campus

Two-thirds majority opts for beverage choice over \$60 000 in annual revenue

MEGHAN WATERS
The Silhouette

HAMILTON (CUP)—McMaster Students Union will no longer be a Coke-only campus, thanks to the result of a student referendum that prevents the Students Union (MSU) from renegotiating an exclusivity contract with any beverage company.

Approximately 1500 of 2200 students voted in favour of the ban.

"It was very clear-cut. We made quorum by a bunch. It's a clear mandate for the MSU," said Rob Gillezeau, one of the yes side leaders.

Michelle Peek, one of the founders of Campus Choice, the group that pushed for the referendum, said she knew the yes side had won when she found out the vote had made quorum. The official results were not released until early the next morning.

"I don't think I slept all night. I kind of half-slept and dreamt about it," said Peek. "I'm really proud of all the students."

The referendum was closely watched by other student unions in Canada.

"It serves as a notice to every administration that students are increasingly resentful of the corporatization of their university campus," said Ethan Rabidoux, president of the Alma Mater Society at Queen's University, which

has an exclusive contract until 2010. "The ramifications are pretty huge, there's no understating it. People don't like exclusivity contracts—I seriously doubt it's because they don't like the taste of Coke."

The referendum will have little impact on McMaster students in the short term, as the contract does not expire until the end of 2007, meaning the MSU will have two years to prepare for the loss of \$60 000 per year in revenue.

"The ramifications are pretty huge, there's no understating it. People don't like exclusivity contracts—I seriously doubt it's because they don't like the taste of Coke."

ETHAN RABIDOUX,
PRESIDENT, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY
ALMA MATER SOCIETY

"There's only so much we can do until 2008," said McMaster Student Union President Tommy Piribauer. "We'd hate to reach 2008 and be

completely unprepared to open up the market."

The biggest hit for students will be increased prices, according to MSU VP Finance Jeff Moran.

"We operate on very low profit margins, and with the cost of syrup and products going up to three times as much, I think that's where students will notice it most," said Moran, who predicted that the price of syrup could more than triple, from the current locked-in price of \$25 a bag to the market rate of \$80 a bag.

According to Piribauer, though, the referendum is a clear mandate for the MSU.

"The students were well-informed, and the results were so evidently in favour of one side that it goes beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is what students want," he said.

The current plan for Campus Choice is to take a few days to relax, as group members were working on little or no sleep in the days before the vote.

However, Peek noted that the long-overdue rest is unlikely to happen. In the past week, they've been swamped by media interviews and requests for help from other universities.

Student groups at Carleton University, the University of Ottawa, Queen's and the University of Toronto have all asked for the group's assistance with their own battles against Coke.

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Media failing in their responsibility

WORKING AT A STUDENT NEWSPAPER, I'm able to see shining examples of integrity and idealism everyday. Chances are, many of my coworkers will go on to have careers in the news media, and will one day—with any luck—be covering, on a regular basis, stories that carry more weight than campus events and SU politics. Having befriended many writers over my years at the Gateway, I couldn't imagine any of them backing off of a story because it was tough, on an unpopular topic, or because a corporate owner told them they shouldn't cover it. Unfortunately, the reporters that currently cover these contentious issues have not just turned down their coverage, but have stopped asking questions altogether.

During this Tuesday's sitting of the United States senate, Democrats motioned for a closed session, a move that removed the press and other spectators from observing—and reporting on—what was said. The Democrats wanted to discuss Iraq—specifically, why the Republican-led investigation into pre-war intelligence was progressing so slowly.

The problem isn't the media's inability to report on what actually went on, but rather what this closed session of the senate highlighted—that, more than two years into a war that has been shown as unjustified and arguably immoral, few people care enough to notice that the investigation into what the hell went wrong has all but stalled.

The reason for this lies not with the people, but rather with the media. While individuals can—and most likely do—contemplate such issues, the news media is burdened with the responsibility of serving as the voice for a free society. The media are their cry of outrage, their collective appeal and, most importantly, their unbiased investigative body. This is the media's burden, but also what makes them so important, as what they choose to fill the airwaves with is what becomes the issue of the day.

Citizens—journalists specifically—should be absolutely outraged at what has taken place. For all the talk of exit strategy and how Bush is handling the conflict, the fact that Bush has started an unprovoked war with a sovereign nation has gone largely unexamined. By engaging the issues caused by the war while ignoring the basis for the war itself, the media is essentially validating the conversation, and therein lies the problem.

It's ultimately the job of the media to make sure that the attention of the people is focused on what's important, on what is the most important. We got a taste of what news anchors could do with Hurricane Katrina, and the results were clear: by merely calling officials on their own bullshit, the media was able to rally the spirits of everyone who was furious at what was taking place. Unfortunately, the way they acted during that catastrophe was the exception, and not the norm.

Hopefully, by the time those at the Gateway are in the position to influence the national discourse, focusing attention on the true important issues won't be the struggle that it seems to be today.

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Will puke for money

AS YOU'LL SOON SEE, the Christmas season is upon us, and with it an invasive flurry of product advertisements, each claiming its product to be the finest, most original and fulfilling gift on the shelves.

One such product, marketed for children, is a regurgitated owl pellet. Owl pellets are tightly packed masses of fur, feathers, bones, connective tissue and bacteria, thrown up through the beak. Children are supposed to dissect the pellet and examine its contents, ostensibly to learn what owls eat, and to foster a love of science. It sells for \$20.

This means several things. First, it means that many parents are shamefully gullible. Second, it means that marketers are becoming disturbingly persuasive. And last, it means that I'll immediately be changing my method of funding Christmas purchases. For anyone interested in science, and in what I eat, please come to the Gateway offices and I'll vomit on your hands. For \$20, of course.

TIM PEPPIN
Opinion Editor

LETTERS

Jagasia correct about problems in East Indian community

First off, I would like to thank Mr Jagasia for coming out and saying what was on many of our minds (Re: "Crisis in the East Indian community," 27 October). Just like 1200 other people between the ages of 16 and 30, I too was at the concert mentioned in the article, where many witnessed what happens when you mix binge drinking and drugs, in the South Asian community.

As a member of this community myself, I do agree with the arguments Mr Jagasia made and would like to elaborate a bit by saying that beyond liquor, drugs and denial, the problem includes excessive egos.

You can look to any of the "gang members" who have been in the media, one thing you will find common between them all—their lives end early. But not from alcohol poisoning or drug overdoses, rather from a gunshot wound over a dispute that could likely be dated back to high school.

What I have found to be the case in the South Asian community as a whole is that, for some reason, if your friend gets a dirty look or is accidentally bumped on the dance floor, it's a personal insult to him, you, his cousins, your cousins and your drunken mortgage broker who happens to be at the party.

We can't just blame liquor and drugs for this problem. These two things only fuel the fire caused by these excessive egos and our community's denial of these problems as a can of lysol rather than an extinguisher.

To those who felt a little irked by the article because of it concentrating on the East Indian community specifically, c'mon guys—I think what we need to realize is that while the majority of men in our community aren't a part of this problem, the majority of this problem is caused by men within our community. What I'm trying to say here is that these young "gangsters" might be a minority of the South Asian community in Edmonton, but this minority represents an overwhelming majority of the troubled youth population in Edmonton as a whole.

NITIN BHATIA
MSc Engineering

Shaughnessy needs to actually meet some engineers

This is in regards to Brenda Shaughnessy's article "Pedway to blame for releasing engineers" (1 November).

It seems we're both sorry. I'm sorry you didn't get your full share of pizza. I'm sorry a few "bad apples" spoiled your party. I'm also sorry you haven't bothered to meet a few engineers and perhaps see past the stereotypes. And if it helps, I'm sorry you're not in engineering and don't understand how annoying and incorrect your generalizations are.

According to you, it's a miracle I have any social contact with my "inherent jerk friends," let alone have any friends. Against all odds,



I've introduced myself and managed to make a few friends while walking through Agfor. One of the engineering outdoor soccer teams even managed to find a goalie in your faculty. Did I blink and miss the flying pigs? No. We just made an effort to meet a few of our new neighbors. An effort you didn't bother with. You've already decided what every engineer is like. Perhaps you should spend some time in the engineering buildings. You'll notice the majority of the students are polite, friendly, decent people.

The pedways were built to allow people to walk indoors to SUB from their faculty, avoiding the bitter cold of winter, something the students in Agfor have enjoyed for a long time. Or conceivably someone thought the further mixing of faculties might help improve the otherwise deficient school spirit and lack of community here at the University. But what would I know about community, I'm just an engineer, right?

As angry as your article made me, I wouldn't assume every student in Agfor is as "stingy, bitter, whiny, or bitchy" as you're writing the article. Actually, I don't need to assume; I know, because I bothered to take the time and meet some new people.

If it will help you make an effort, I'll buy you a piece of pizza in the engineering common area and introduce you to some of our faculty's students. Just come and find me in NRE, somewhere across that pedway you're so fond of.

JONATHAN ZAOZIBNY
Civil Engineering IV

Back off—get your own pizza

First of all, I accept your apology

(for those of you just joining us, the charming Brenda Shaughnessy, in her 1 November opinion article "Pedway to blame for releasing engineers," apologized to us engineers for being engineers, and then followed with an interesting explanation of why everyone hates us).

I now feel obliged, however, to reciprocate with an apology of my own. I'm sorry that I've never been in the Agfor building. I'm sorry that I don't even know where the pedway is. Above all, I'm sorry that I didn't eat your pizza. Perhaps you're wondering why I'm apologizing, so I'll be kind enough to explain. You, Brenda, strike me as an intelligent person, and intelligent people don't blindly judge others. This leads me to believe that you enjoy finding fault in others. I, in this instance, have not given you a fair chance to fulfill your need for nastiness, and that is, frankly, quite inconsiderate of me—typically, really. So, Brenda, I offer you my sincere apology, coupled with an attempt to provide some clarification to lessen the blow of my jerk-off attitude.

I assure you that I haven't smoked a single time this term; I have no reason to, as I'm getting my ass kicked in all of my classes, like most of my first- and second-year peers. My guess is that those "smirking" engineers that you speak of are four years ready to graduate and are guaranteed to be making rather large sums of money doing work they love in the very near future. I don't think that's an unreasonable reason to smile—you'd probably be doing the same thing.

At the end of the day, if it really bothers you that much, just move. This is quite a big school. I hear there's some big library-type place with books and chairs on the other side of campus.

So, all sarcasm aside, I think everyone needs to give engineers a break (perhaps with the exception of the

three notorious pizza-eating hooligans—shame on you). Four years of bending over has earned us the right to smile.

Also, the gyo-to-girl ratio is 5:1.

DANIEL PEZIM
Engineering I

Virginity headline about tough sports, not rough sex

In response to Dawn Carter's 1 November letter "Gateway sports reporting violence through sports headline," I see in no way how the headline you referred to ("Volleyball Bears to take TRU's CS virginity," 20 October) insinuates any kind of violence, or in any other way debases the paper's reputation in the world.

One definition of the word virgin is "—[a] Happening for the first time; initial." Since this was the team's first game in CS, I think the headline is appropriate. If you read the article good to describe Thompson River as "cubs," but you didn't see forestry students getting upset because the team isn't actually composed of bears. Lighten up.

RYAN MEAGHER
Science I

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Commercialization of Christmas should be moved to another day



PHIL
HEAD

Merry Christmas. These days, 1 November marks the beginning of the Christmas season, as the bags of individually wrapped candy are removed from store shelves to make way for the deluge of potential yuletide gifts. Of course, while the official start of Christmas in Canada is the day after Halloween, the unofficial date gets stretched back further each year.

It's not uncommon to see Christmas-themed wrapping paper, holiday crackers and other such items on store shelves in mid-October, and in increasingly rare cases even appearing in September as the back to school sales end. Soon those "Christmas in July" sales will no longer be just an advertising gimmick. At least stores usually refrain from pumping secular Christmas muzak through their speakers until November.

This is one area where Canadians have a competitive edge over Americans. The official start of Christmas in America is the last Friday before December, this year 25 November—over three weeks later than ours. Of course, this isn't because Americans are less consumerist than Canadians, but rather because they have Thanksgiving to prepare for between Halloween and Christmas.

Of course, the Americans quickly make up for the lost shopping time. The day after Thanksgiving, before the leftover turkey has a chance to

get cold, Americans rush to stores to buy their presents in the single busiest shopping day of the year, dubbed Black Friday (the day retailers get back in the black). This is sort of like Boxing Day in Canada, with stores putting on massive sales, except more rabid, with some people even camping outside stores overnight to get first shot at the deals. Coincidentally, this day also marks Buy Nothing Day here in Canada, the significance of the date often lost due to a lack of understanding of American customs.

It's enough to make me want to start

Soon those "Christmas in July" sales will no longer be just an advertising gimmick.

tearing down the Christmas displays (I'm sure JC wouldn't take it personally—after all, he did the same thing to the moneylenders in the temple back in the day). Now don't get me wrong, I enjoy Christmas, but not Christmas gifts. For me, Christmas is first and foremost a religious holiday, and a time to spend with family.

While the concept of giving gifts was originally a reference to the three wise men bearing gifts for the baby Jesus, this meaning has been lost as the giving of gifts has overshadowed all else. I've tried to fight the takeover. I've told friends and relatives not to buy me anything, and if they do feel the need to give something, to make it something personal like a photo, a letter, or even some homemade cookies—but not something from the mall. How many adults in Canada

need someone to buy them an Xbox? Save up some money and buy it yourself (since people seem to spend more on gifts for themselves than others during the "season of giving" these days, anyway). I think the Chinese have the right idea in that Chinese New Year gifts are traditionally only given to children.

What bugs me is not just the capitalist takeover of a religious festival, but the expression of affection. Our society tells us to show we care for someone by buying them gifts, whether they be Hallmark cards or power drills. Following this logic, the more you spend, the more you care about someone. Furthermore, should you spend less on gifts for a person the next year, you must not care for them as much, and if you don't buy something for them, then you must not care at all.

So powerful is this commercial equation of love that many people will even go into debt to finance these purchases, as they are the currency of love, and everyone wants to feel and express love. It's time to take back the love and give the affection that goes with the gift, not the gift itself.

I guess Christians have no real right to complain about the capitalist overthrow of their holiday. After all, Christmas was originally a pagan festival co-opted by missionaries, along with such traditions as decorating trees and hanging mistletoe. However, at least the Christians had the decency to change the holiday's name, rather than merely changing what the original holiday stood for. Why not just make Boxing Day—originally a day of charity, now a day of sales—the time to give presents and leave religion out of it? I'm sure all the atheists out there wouldn't mind in the least.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: TARA STEGLITZ & JENNY PROGNER

JUST WHAT I ALWAYS WANTED Christmas is coming too early these years.

Things are not always as they appear.

Do you see 7 cubes?

Do you see 6 cubes?

Things are not always as they appear.

Most U of A students (60%) drink 1 to 3 drinks or do not drink at all at parties and bars.

Sources:
Based on representative survey data collected from fall 2003 and fall 2004 random samples with a total of 1,327 University of Alberta students responding.
www.studentlifeeducation.com

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I'm a sexy, underappreciated beast



DAVID BERRY

You never realize it until it happens, but sometimes, the smallest things can profoundly affect your life. You see, as I was shuffling around my squalid bachelor suite naked this weekend, I happened to pass by the brand new full-length mirror I acquired from the lovely folks down at Ikea. Transfixed by my own appearance, I stood up straight, wiped the chip crumbs off of my chest, and gazed upon my own visage for a good five minutes. Then it hit me: fuck, am I ever hot.

Seriously, if I lived in Ancient Greece, there would have been no need for all those marble statues; I'm like a five-course buffet of sexy over here. However, despite the obvious evidence in front of me everyday, there's a problem with all this hotness: no one else seems to recognize it.

Now, I've been praised for my sparkling personality many times over. "His rampant intelligence belies a razor-sharp wit not seen on this continent since Wilde lectured," (the *Globe and Mail*, 15 March, 2004). "You'll always be my special little guy," my mom, 22 May 2002. "You're a retard," (Warren, last Wednesday in RATT).

But where, I ask you, is the respect for this body, a veritable shrine that could only come from two decades of neglect, apathy and functional addictions? Absent, that's where.

Do you people not realize what I have to offer? I mean, you've seen this luscious face in the paper for what, three years now, and nary a compliment has come my way. My hair is so beautiful it would have been given a constellation in ancient times, but not one of you has had the common decency to come by, stroke it lovingly, and tell me of melancholy days gone by while feeding me grapes. These



GOD, THAT'S HOT Mr Berry deserves some love. Give it to him. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: RISE

piercing green eyes, these exuberant red cheeks, this boyish half-smile that could bring a heart-attack victim back to life—all of it wasted on a university population that evidently hasn't seen an optometrist in years.

And that's only the part you people can see in the newspaper. You guys entirely miss out on the temple I'm packing below the neckline. My narrow, slouched shoulders give way to the six-inch howitzers I hide under my sensible t-shirts. If you run your fingers a little further down those shirt-snakes, you'll find the powerful wrists that come from years of writing and sexual frustration, and dainty, effish hands so soft you'd think satin was sandpaper. If you ever get tired of those babies, feel free to gaze in awe upon my sunken, flabby chest and burgeoning belly—complete with fur-lined "pleasure trail," for when the time comes,

baby, I'll leave the interstellar pleasure of my ass to the more intrepid among you, but suffice it to say you rarely get a chance to use the words "granite" and "silk" in the same sentence. And my calves: exquisite.

Yet, despite all this, I'm left to swim around in compliments about my sense of humour, while the harvest field of compliments about my god-like visage lies fallow. I'm a piece of meat, dammit, but not one of you seems willing to waltz on down to the butcher shop and ask for the finest cut of Berry sirloin in the joint. It makes me sick, and it's time for it to end. Forget about telling me how smart I am, or how I'm the most compassionate person you've ever met; instead, let me know just how much you'd love to bury your face in my sparkling pecs. Just watch out for the chip crumbs when you're in there.

Intensive care needed to save healthcare



TYSON DURST

While Canadians have many opinions about what can be done to fix our ailing healthcare system, there is a definite consensus that there is a widespread infection throughout the system and will only get worse until some serious action is taken to address key issues.

People usually talk about ridiculously long waiting lists and doctor shortages and then proceed to talk about spending more money to address those problems, but I've come to realize that money is only part of the solution, not all of it. Another part of the solution, whether you're talking about the medical profession, or any other, is some simple respect and civility.

It seems simple enough—treat people with some respect, as you would like to be treated, and things go much more smoothly. I think Jesus said something about this somewhere in the Bible. Smart guy, that Jesus.

But I recently misplaced my Bible. I think I might have sold it as an authentic signed copy on Ebay. I wondered later if that was "unethical," or

"wrong," but since I had sold my Bible and mailed it away, I could no longer look it up to double-check.

So I was left to rediscover this basic truth while waiting for a doctor to come in at a walk-in clinic and give me a quick checkup. I had brought my coffee in with me, and I was sitting on a counter. When the doctor came in, he joked how it was nice of me to bring him a coffee, and I chuckled and told him that probably wouldn't be a good idea, what with my raging chest cough and cold that was beginning to consume my internal organs and burst forth from my chest to wreak havoc on the general populace like that famous scene in *Alien*.

The doctor then told me a quick story about how, when he had been working at another clinic, there had been a window of opportunity when there were no patients in the waiting room to run across the street and grab a coffee. Sure enough, someone did come into the clinic and, upon being informed that the doctor had just run to get a drink and would be back shortly, got ticked off and told the doctor off upon his return. Apparently the person felt that the giant stick that was lodged up their ass required an immediate diagnosis.

The good doctor then proceeded to inform me about the appallingly low percentage (it's in the single digits) of medical students who will actu-

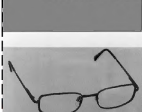
ally stick around after graduation, and a factor that contributes to that trend comes from seeking a more positive work environment with increased job satisfaction and some simple respect and patience.

While I can't verify the source or accuracy of the number in this particular instance, I'm going to assume that a doctor is more attuned to what's going on in the medical profession than I am. And numerous studies keep repeating the same idea; that more money doesn't always mean more happiness, but rather that it's the intangible things like saying, "Hey, thanks for your hard work," or, "I really appreciate your help. I honestly don't know how that gerbil got in there," that make a bigger difference in the long-term.

I'm not saying that this will fix healthcare by itself, but I do think it's a starting point as part of a solution that seeks to create a more positive environment where patients and doctors alike aren't constantly miserable and pointing fingers in an attempt to lash out and vent their frustrations. I mean, we have the Internet for that, don't we?

Essentially, if an ounce of prevention is, indeed, worth a pound of cure, some increased civility and respect for doctors and medical professionals, and people in general, could turn out to be the most valuable cure of all.

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LE MIROIR

Volume 1 numéro 1 • le journal étudiant francophone officiel de la *university of alberta* • le jeudi 3 novembre 2005

Le Miroir: Pourquoi et comment?

OMAYRA A. ISSA ET PIERRE-ST-JACQUES
Éditeurs

Vous vous questionnez certainement sur la raison pour laquelle deux pages en français se trouvent en plein milieu du *Gateway*, normalement rédigé dans la langue de Shakespeare. En fait, puisque l'on retrouve déjà des composantes anglophones et francophones au sein de la *University of Alberta*, il nous semblait que les publications étudiantes devraient refléter cet aspect. Sans être une section à part entière du *Gateway*, *Le Miroir* joue le même rôle, c'est-à-dire qu'il permet aux étudiants et étudiantes de s'informer et d'exprimer leurs points de vue. En fait, *Le Miroir* est le cousin francophone du *Gateway*.

En croyant fortement que le nombre de francophones à la *University of Alberta* va en croissant, nous estimons qu'il est important d'avoir

une représentation concrète de cette réalité.

Il est important de noter que *Le Miroir* n'existe que pour servir de moyen de communication à tous ceux et celles qui voudraient s'exprimer dans la langue de Molière. C'est un journal qui est tout simplement francophile, où tous les accents en français sont non seulement acceptés mais aussi, et surtout, recherchés. Nous espérons que cette tentative ne sera pas sans succès et qu'elle répondra aux envies et aux besoins de tous ceux et celles qui voudront lire des articles en français dans notre journal universitaire. Ainsi deux fois par mois, du campus principal au Campus Saint-Jean, on écrira en français et on lira le *Gateway* en français.

Nous invitons donc tous les accents en français de notre université à se faire entendre. Du Congo à Edmonton en passant par Falher, *Le Miroir* les attend tous.

Haïti que voici

JEAN-PIERRE FRIEL

Journaliste

Ayiti, mot latin signifiant "terre élevée" désignant l'île habitée par les autochtones de la Caraïbe. Ce nom a été repris et donné à l'ancienne colonie française après son indépendance le 1er janvier 1804

La plupart des Albertains de cette génération ont assurément commencé à entendre parler de ce pays à partir du 7 février, 1986, lors de la chute de l'ex-dictateur Jean-Claude Duvalier, fils du bien tristement connu Papa Doc, qui instaura, comme dans toute l'Amérique latine de l'époque, une dictature féroce durant trois décennies. C'est ce dictateur qui, en fait, forcé, à la fin des années 60, la famille de Michaëlle Jean, comme des milliers d'autres haïtiens, à s'exiler. Depuis, à travers les sous-bosses de cette transition vers la démocratie organisée par les grands de ce monde et « qui n'en fait pas », les images qui vous parviennent parient pour le moins, sinon d'un peuple pauvre, nu et barbare mais d'une société construite sur une violence séculaire. Une violence par laquelle une infime minorité politique et économique maintient la quasi-totalité de la population dans un état proche de l'esclavage dont ce pays même, le premier en Amérique, a dévoilé l'inhumanité tout en montrant qu'il était possible de vivre autrement dans ce Nouveau Monde longtemps annoncé par les « découvreurs-civilisateurs du XVI^e siècle ».

Alors que la nomination de Michaëlle Jean comme Gouverneure Générale du Canada vient placer encore ce singulier petit pays, indexé comme le plus pauvre de l'hémisphère occidental, sous les projecteurs, avec toute l'urgence de sa nudité, de sa soif et de sa faim, je voudrais pour ce numéro, ce que ne le connaissent pas rappeler quelques repères historiques qui nous permettraient de broser le portrait robot de ce pays et de ce peuple qui s'entêtent à croire, à espérer, à rêver et à (sur)tour...vivre.

Tout d'abord, nous rappelons que la nomination de la Gouverneure a eu lieu dans la période même du 214^e anniversaire de la cérémonie du bon calman qui est l'acte conceptuel, le coit verbal, le « Dieu dit » du prophète et aujourd'hui Iwa (lieu vaudou) Boukman qui a donné naissance à cette nouvelle nation et à cette nouvelle race d'hommes faite de toutes les autres, particulièrement des 121 nations africaines de notre vaudou, dans leur élan vers la divinité Libéré.

Cette nomination, en même temps qu'elle honore les Canadiens par ce message d'ouverture et de multiculturalisme qu'elle envoie au monde entier, tombe à point pour le peuple haïtien qui croulait aujourd'hui sous l'occupation d'une force des Nations Unies, qui essaie de réparer le chaos causé par les États-Unis et la France, qui, pour nous empêcher de célébrer les deux cents ans de notre indépendance, ont poussé le dos du président Aristide, devenu trep catholique.

Une première classe

Touchée par les conquistadores le 6 décembre, 1492, Ayiti voit l'implantation du premier fort dans le nouveau monde : le fort Navirite. Les Tainos, habitants de l'île, furent aussi les premiers à essayer de contenir la barbarie des premiers colons laissés par Christophe Colomb en

répliquant au viol de certaines femmes autochtones. Bilan : les 39 espagnols furent tués. C'était au nord-ouest du pays tout près des Gonaïves où s'est acharnée la tempête Jeanne l'année dernière.

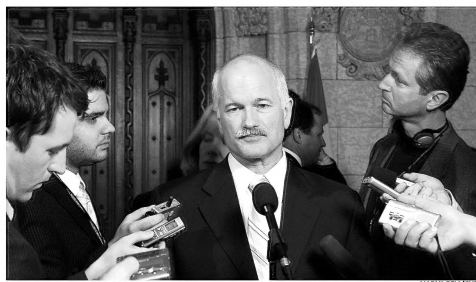
L'île d'Ayiti, puisqu'il s'agit d'une île et d'une seule partagée entre deux pays (Ayiti et la République dominicaine), a vu l'implantation de la première ville Isabella et de la première université de l'Amérique, « la Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo en 1538 ». C'est la terre qu'a vu naître aussi le marronnage avec le premier marron, le Cacique Guarcayo qui gagna les mornes du Bahoruco avec une quarantaine de natifs. C'est ce grand chef qui obligea en 1533 le roi espagnol à signer avec lui le premier traité reconnu historiquement par les Nations Unies entre l'Europe et l'Amérique, le traité du Cacique Henri – de son nom de baptême catholique – reconnaissant ainsi le Bahoruco comme territoire libre de l'île. Ce fut ce chef marron Taino qui édit à dire au commandant de la troupe espagnole valencine : « Allez remercier Dieu de ce que vous laissez la vie et ne revenez plus ici » élevant ainsi la barrière qui indiquera pour l'histoire et pour toujours de quel côté était la barbarie et de quel autre était l'humanisme.

Les Tainos, habitants de l'île, furent les premiers à essayer de contenir la barbarie des premiers colons.

C'est aussi en Ayiti en 1503 que furent introduites les premières cargaisons d'esclaves noirs. Ceux-là dont les fils seront les premiers à conquérir la liberté générale par la force le 29 août 1793 soit près d'un siècle avant son abolition totale en Amérique. Ayiti, c'est surtout dans l'Histoire universelle le premier, le seul pays né d'une révolution d'esclaves et qui aurait dû célébrer en 2004 le 200^e anniversaire de cet événement de portée universelle.

Le premier aussi à développer une conscience continentale en recevant Miranda puis Bolívar et en leur fournissant au 18^e et au début du 19^e siècle ses armes, ses idées et des hommes (donc son sang) pour l'indépendance des pays de l'Amérique latine, comme le Venezuela, la Bolivie etc. C'est ce peuple alors en lutte pour sa liberté qui mena le combat pour l'indépendance des États-Unis à Savannah. Et c'est encore Ayiti qui a fourni au milieu des années 60 ses professeurs, ses docteurs et ses infirmières, au Québec contribuant ainsi à la construction de cette province au lendemain d'une révolution tranquille, comme il l'a fait pour ses frères africains au moment de la décolonisation.

C'est avant tout le pays de tous ces valeureux marrons inconnus du patrimoine commun de l'Amérique Makandal, Boukman, Jean-François, Blasson, Lamour Jérôme comme de Toussaint Louverture, Jean-Jacques Dessalines, Capois Lamort qui a défait l'armée de Napoléon (le puissant de l'époque). C'est le pays du brave Charlemagne Pèralde pendu un 1^{er} novembre (1919) sous l'occupation américaine, le jour de la Toussaint qui rappelle si bien que certains morts sont bien vivants.



Jack Layton : le seul chef de l'opposition à vouloir faire fonctionner le gouvernement minoritaire

Jack Layton: Un modèle pour les autres chefs de l'opposition?

JARID MILNE
Opinion

Jack Layton, le chef du Nouveau Parti Démocratique fédéral, a annoncé en Octobre que le gouvernement libéral de Paul Martin doit « prendre plus au sérieux » les demandes de son parti si Martin veut que le NPD continue à soutenir son gouvernement minoritaire. Durant l'été, le gouvernement Martin a à peine survécu les motions de censure apportées par le Bloc Québécois et le Parti Conservateur, survivant seulement avec l'aide du NPD. Certains pourraient critiquer Layton ou Martin pour ces actions, pensant qu'ils font simplement des accords politiques en secret ou que le NPD essaie de forcer le gouvernement Martin à suivre ses directives politiques.

Ces personnes ignorent que ceci devrait être exactement ce que font les partis politiques dans une situation de gouvernement minoritaire, c'est-à-dire coopérer dans le but de faire avancer les intérêts de tous les citoyens du pays. Layton devrait être félicité pour être le seul chef de parti qui essaie vraiment de faire fonctionner le gouvernement minoritaire, pendant que Gilles Duceppe et Stephen Harper essaient de renverser le gouvernement.

Ces derniers pourraient même servir leurs électeurs en forçant le gouvernement Martin à écouter leurs propositions sur l'armement des forces militaires, la réforme du déficit démocratique, l'accord de Kyoto, et les réclames légitimes des régions qu'ils représentent. Malheureusement, seul Layton semble prêt à faire ceci pour éviter la chute du gouvernement et une autre campagne électorale. Alors,

les citoyens représentés par son parti peuvent voir leurs intérêts représentés dans les actions gouvernementales, mieux que les intérêts de ceux qui soutiennent les autres partis de l'opposition.

À ceux qui se lamentent à propos de la situation minoritaire dans laquelle le gouvernement se trouve maintenant, je réponds qu'une situation beaucoup plus désagréable serait celle où le gouvernement se retrouverait avec une majorité parlementaire écrasante. Le gouvernement pourrait faire ce qu'il veut sans avoir besoin de se préoccuper des partis de l'opposition. Dans les situations minoritaires, tous les partis politiques doivent essayer de coopérer pour faire fonctionner le gouvernement, faisant des compromis et tenant compte des perspectives des diverses régions du pays. À ce moment, seul Jack Layton utilise la situation minoritaire à son avantage pour représenter les partisans du NPD et pour assurer que leurs points de vue soient représentés au sein du gouvernement.

Enfin, il faut se demander : Qui veut vraiment qu'une élection soit déclenchée maintenant ? Nous venons tout juste d'élire un nouveau gouvernement. Je pense que ça vaut la peine d'essayer de le faire fonctionner, plutôt que d'avoir des votes de non-confiance et risquer de faire tomber le gouvernement chaque cinq ou six mois. Cher moi, la coopération entre les partis politiques fonctionne presque toujours mieux que les luttes partisans. Harper et Duceppe pourraient bien contribuer au gouvernement, et mieux remplir les mandats que leurs électeurs leur ont donné, en suivant l'exemple de Layton.

LE MIROIR

jeudi, 3 novembre 2005

volume 1 numéro 1
E-mail: miroir.ujofa@gmail.com

équipe éditoriale

Omayra A Issa
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mise en page

Pierre St-Jacques

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Questions ou commentaires? Écrivez-nous à miroir.ujofa@gmail.com!

Les pommes pourries font de bonnes tartes

CARI, "LE CAT" CHAREST

Opinion

Voici donc mon premier texte en tant que super journaliste du *Miroir*! Ceux qui ne connaissent bien savent que j'aime observer les gens et essayer de les comprendre davantage. Aussi, j'aime bien donner mon opinion sur pas mal tout ce qui m'entoure; résultat, il faut souvent me prendre avec un grain de sel, sans toutefois oublier d'en prendre et de se pas trop en laisser!

Passons aux choses sérieuses, je ne suis pas ici pour faire dans la dentelle! Je dédie cet article à certaines personnes qui fréquentent le Campus Saint-Jean, tout en espérant qu'elles sauront se reconnaître! Voici ma courte mise en situation... Disons que vous venez d'une semaine passée dans un Club Méd du Mexique et à votre retour, je vous demande si vous avez apprécié votre flirt avec la culture de l'endroit. C'est alors que vous me répondez que vous avez eu pas mal de Corona, mangé de bons et que vous avez fait la connaissance de pleins de gens d'Edmonton voyageant avec vous!

Vous prétendez avoir eu une semaine extraordinaire. Toutefois, vous êtes probablement regrettés avec aussi peu de connaissances sur la culture mexicaine qu'au moment de votre arrivée, mais à part le fait de répéter à tour de bras ce oh combien cultivé bout de phrase : « une cerveza por favor ». Vous prétendez que vous aurez eu une semaine extraordinaire à relaxer, toutefois vous êtes probablement regrettés avec aussi peu de connaissances sur la culture mexicaine qu'au moment de votre arrivée, mais à part le fait de répéter à tour de bras ce banal et oh combien cultivé bout de phrase : « una cerveza por favor ». Alors laissez moi vous poser cette question : Quel était le but de votre voyage? Le Mexique a beaucoup à offrir autre que des forfaits « tout inclus » dans lesquels vous ne côtoyez que des touristes, tout en ignorant la véritable et combien extraordinaire culture latine. Seriez-vous trop peureux ou encore trop lâches pour tenter d'en découvrir davantage sur le vrai Mexique? Affirmatif!

Cette situation peut facilement se transposer à celle du Campus Saint-Jean, qui est une des seules institutions à caractère francophone dans le Canada anglais. Beaucoup d'étudiants (ou les parents de ceux-ci) doivent déboursés des frais de scolarité exorbitants afin de bénéficier d'une éducation en français. Le fait d'être bilingue est certainement un avantage. Que vous soyez en éducation, en arts, en commerce ou en infirmière, vous avez une longueur d'avance sur bien d'autres candidats à l'obtention d'une future carrière. Or, beaucoup d'étudiants du Campus devraient se faire un petit examen de conscience afin de réaliser qu'ils prennent carrément une débarque tout en traînant avec eux certains

«sauveux» dans leur chute.

Vous avez la chance de pouvoir vivre dans un environnement francophone qui répond carrément à vos besoins. Vous bénéficiez de cours offerts dans la langue de Molière, mais croyez-vous que ça suffit pour qu'on vous trouve bilingue? J'ai une petite nouvelle pour vous mes amis, ce n'est pas dans une salle de classe que vous allez apprendre à maîtriser le français! Ça ne prend pas la tête à Papineau pour savoir qu'on apprend une langue en riant, en pleurant, en buvant, en mangeant avec elle. Vous devez comprendre que vous êtes à un stade critique de votre vie où VOUS et seulement VOUS travaillez à construire VOTRE identité pour le reste de VOTRE vie et que beaucoup ne se rendent pas compte qu'ils perdent leur temps à essayer de devenir bilingue quand ils ne sont pas prêts à y mettre

Arrêter de demander à vos amis francophones de corriger vos textes... soyez honnêtes avec vous-même et allez vous acheter un dictionnaire!

les efforts! Voici donc quelques petits trucs qui sauront vous aider :

-Allez au Centre de Communication Orale et Écrite, mais ne vous attendez pas à ce qu'ils fassent tout le travail à votre place!

-Quand vous êtes dans le mini-bus, pourqu'il en pas en profiter pour faire un brin de jasette avec vos amis en français.

-Apprenez à vous servir des précieuses ressources et regroupement qui ne demandent qu'à vous aider. La cité francophone, la SEP, l'animateur culturel, l'Unité-théâtre, etc., en sont de bons exemples!

-Arrêtez d'avoir peur et laissez-vous aller, ce mauvais sentiment ne vous mènera nul part dans la vie!

-Arrêtez de demander à vos amis francophones de corriger vos textes... Soyez honnêtes avec vous-mêmes et allez vous acheter un dictionnaire!

Finalement, je tiens à souligner le fait que j'ai beaucoup d'admiration pour ceux qui ont choisi de se respecter et de respecter les autres dans leur choix d'apprendre et de perfectionner cette belle langue qu'est le Français. Je lève mon chapeau à ceux qui prennent le temps d'apprécier ce que cette culture, cette langue, cet héritage peuvent leur faire découvrir! Pour ce qui est des pommes pourries, elles vont se voir transformer en tarte et n'auront aucune autre utilité que de laisser tout le goût et l'aspect nutritif à celles qui auront su se conserver!

Vos commentaires sont les bienvenus!

Lecture et culture

ÉRIC VAILLANT

Opinion

On ne saurait trop insister sur l'importance de la lecture notamment dans l'apprentissage d'une nouvelle langue. Outre la pratique en soi, c'est-à-dire l'application de connaissances linguistiques à travers l'utilisation du langage, la lecture permet d'explorer plusieurs aspects d'une langue. Malheureusement, on associe souvent la lecture à une contrainte, soit celle d'être forcé. Or, lire peut être une activité divertissante et fort enrichissante. Il s'agit de bien choisir ses lectures. Une évidence certes, mais non négligeable en ce sens qu'un livre qui ne capte pas notre attention aura tôt fait de nous lasser.

Il faut donc choisir judicieusement ses lectures de façon à y prendre goût et non pas les envisager comme un passe-temps ennuyant et inutile. L'importance de faire un bon choix est d'autant plus pertinente lorsqu'il s'agit de lire

dans une langue qui ne nous est pas particulièrement familière. Bien entendu la lecture n'est pas le hobby favori de tous, tout comme les activités physiques n'ont pas le même intérêt pour chacun. Pourtant les deux sont importantes et bénéfiques. Un peu de discipline s'impose à l'occasion, l'en conviens. Pourtant, la lecture nous rapporte beaucoup plus que ce que nous y investissons en temps et en argent. Ici ce sens, c'est un bon placement. De plus, la lecture nous permet d'enrichir notre vocabulaire, de saisir souvent inconsciemment des règles de grammaire. Ce sont là les composantes essentielles d'une langue, mais il y a plus, beaucoup plus.

S'impregnier d'une lecture c'est saisir, en tout ou en partie, l'essence de la pensée d'un auteur. Outre la connaissance théorique, la lecture entraîne la réflexion et par le fait même incite à l'organisation structurée de nos idées, souvent bien au-delà du sujet ou de l'histoire lui. En d'autres mots, elle nous rend plus intelligent!

O Canada!

Devrait-on vraiment avoir deux hymnes nationaux?

GUILLAUME LAROCHE

Opinion

J'aime mon hymne national. J'aime entendre le O Canada dans les écoles, aux concerts ou aux matchs de hockey, partout où il est coutume de chanter notre hymne national. En temps et lieu, je ne me gêne pas et je chante moi aussi. Étant francophone, peu importe où je me retrouve, aujourd'hui, je chante l'Hymne national en Français — à chaque fois. Et à chaque fois, en milieu majoritairement anglophone, il y a tous quelques-uns qui m'interrogent de travers, comme si je proclamais plutôt la Marseillaise. Parfois ces personnes me font même des commentaires sur pourquoi il est inapproprié de chanter O Canada en Français, ainsi que pourquoi je devrais plutôt adhérer à la version anglaise (font en gesticulant et en parlant lentement pour ce que j'ai bien les comprendre). Il n'y a pas à dire, je trouve cela agaçant.

Mais en même temps, je dois reconnaître que ces gens ont en partie raison. C'est difficile de dire que nous sommes un peuple uni quand nous n'arrivons même pas à nous décider sur la langue dans laquelle exprimer notre patriotisme. En plus, deux textes sur une même mélodie, même moi je trouve ça, ça trop et je suis étudiant en composition musicale contemporaine.

Il faut donc qu'on en finisse avec les deux versions, l'une en Anglais, l'autre en Français, pour en arriver à une édition qui présente un texte avec des composantes des deux langues: une version bilingue. L'hymne n'aurait pas besoin d'être reconstruit à partir de zéro, car il nous suffirait d'emprunter les meilleurs passages des deux textes existants. Si les grandes vedettes à la télévision le font le 1er juillet, le peuple peut en faire autant.

Bien sûr, c'est loin d'être une nouvelle idée. À part de revenir de temps à autre dans les médias (et donc dans l'opinion publique), l'idée a été formellement considérée en 1967 lors des séances gouvernementales pour l'adoption officielle d'un hymne national, mais fut rejetée pour préserver les intentions originales des textes sélectionnés. De plus, quelques politiciens, sans doute soucieux de leur image publique, avaient suggéré que des minorités ethniques accepteraient difficilement un hymne bilingue. Depuis ce temps, le Canada a adopté deux langues officielles, non pour plénier les autres minorités linguistiques, mais pour mieux se définir en tant que pays. Extension logique de ce principe serait de réviser nos hymnes nationaux pour

en produire un seul. Je ne suis pas convaincu pour autant que les intentions artistiquement et historiquement distinctes des juges A.-B. Routhier et Robert Stanley Weir, les poètes ayant contribué les textes que nous connaissons, devraient rester un siècle plus tard protégés; nous pouvons plutôt les amalgamer pour représenter la vision de ce qu'est devenu le Canada. Si l'identité d'un peuple se clarifie, c'est normal que les symboles qui le représentent évoluent également.

En plus, deux textes sur une même mélodie, même moi je trouve ça de trop et je suis étudiant en composition musicale contemporaine.

De plus, un hymne bilingue définirait mieux l'identité linguistique du pays. Si l'une ou l'autre langue officielle est mal perçue dans un coin du pays, c'est une indication que la société locale ne valorise pas cette langue, souvent par un manque d'utilisation courante pour bien ancrer sa valeur sociale, ou parfois, encore pire, par préjugé. Dans les communautés du pays où on retrouve des conflits linguistiques, subtiles ou moins subtiles, il est davantage plus évident que les bords originaux du Premier Ministre Trudeau, exprimés par la loi sur les langues officielles de 1969, ne sont pas à ce jour encore réalisés. Dans un pays où les couples linguistiquement exogames font de plus en plus partie de la norme pour les minorités linguistiques traditionnelles, comment est-ce que ces couples, ainsi que leurs descendants, sont supposés d'identifier au canadianisme? L'alternative consiste à s'identifier à certaines composantes du canadianisme, mais l'histoire a déjà démontré que cette perception limitée semble plutôt éloigner les gens du fait canadien. Le geste simple proposé pourrait à la longue contribuer au renversement de ces tendances simplement en agissant à titre de reconnaissance officielle tangible et accessible à tous de la valeur de nos principaux dialectes, autant à Kelowna qu'à Rimouski en passant par Iqaluit.

Ceci se produira le jour où nos buts politiques, sociaux et culturels seront sur la même longueur d'onde. J'ai hâte. C'est alors que, accompagné de tous mes concitoyens, je pourrai chanter O Canada tout en restant fidèle à mes identités francophone et canadienne.

Le journal francophone est une espèce en voie de disparition.

Aidez le sauvez.

Le Miroir est à la recherche de journalistes, de caricaturistes et d'auteur(e)s de bandes dessinées. Si vous êtes intéressé(e)s, écrivez-nous à miroir.ujofa@gmail.com

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A Look Back...

On September 5th and 6th, 594 volunteers, led by a staff of 5, welcomed nearly 6000 new students to the University of Alberta campus. The new students came from high school, from other post secondary institutions, or were returning to university after a period of time off. Some were moving into Residence, others were living on their own for the first time, and some were living with their parents and adapting to the new university environment. Despite their differences, all of these students had one thing in common – they were all new to the University of Alberta. The mission of the Orientation program is to create a positive educational and personal experience for new University of Alberta students. The program seeks to successfully aid in the transition of new students into University life and integrate them into the University of Alberta campus and community. With the help of our 594 dedicated volunteers, Orientation 2005 was a huge success.

To the New Students who Attended Orientation 2005:

By choosing to attend Orientation you have given yourself a great head start to being successful at the University of Alberta. We truly hope that you learned a few things from our presentations, as well as how to navigate the U of A campus and were made aware of all of the services that exist to help you succeed. Most of all, we hope that you had fun, and met a wonderful group of friends. Best of luck in the next year and welcome to the University of Alberta community!

To the 594 Orientation Volunteers:

Orientation would not run in any way, shape, or form without the help of you all! Your dedication and enthusiasm is unparalleled and we cannot thank you enough, but we will try our best!

A Thank You to the Presenters:

This year's presentations were amazing. We would like to thank all of the

We'll Help You...



SOLVE THE MYSTERY ORIENTATION '05

Presenters and Computer Session Coordinators for their hard work and dedication over the summer months. It's pretty impressive to see the wealth of creativity that can result from a room with 36 talented individuals. Once again, thank you OPs and CSCs for all of your commitment and for making Orientation 2005 a truly spectacular event.

A Thank You to the Program Assistants:

This year over thirty volunteers in purple t-shirts worked hard to make Orientation run without a hitch. These volunteers are, of course, the OPAs! These wicked volunteers ran our information tents, handed out prizes, helped run registrations, and were the heart and soul of Patches and GUBA. We would like to thank all of the hard work and dedication of all the OPAs! We couldn't have done this without you!!

A Thank You to the MUG Leaders:

We would like to thank the "Fresh Green" My Undergraduate Groups Leaders for all of their hard work. Each and every one of them put in many hours to make this year's MUGs program the huge success that it has become! However, their work is not finished yet, they still have the whole school year to inspire and help students in their first year. Thus, we should also thank them for all the work they are about to do, for they are all truly amazing volunteers.

A Thank You to the Team Facilitators:

The Orientation Volunteer family starts with the Team Facilitators. The TFs helped recruit over 550 volunteers and sparked the energy for Orientation. Whenever we needed an extra hand you were always there to help get the job done. The 39 of you helped to create the excitement and the spirit that we all had during Orientation. We thank you for your 10 months of dedication and your leadership throughout the planning and days of Orientation.

A Thank You to the High School and BTU Orientation Leaders:

We have always felt that Orientation Leaders have had a huge effect on the lives of new students. You show them the way and ease their worries. You give new students that extra confidence they need to succeed here. You make a difference. We want to thank all you OLs for your diverse knowledge, your enthusiasm and your devotion.

Have a great year and thanks again!

The Orientation Staff,
Norma Rodenburg
Transition Programs Manager

Dranna Brown,
Orientation Volunteer Coordinator

Janice Kung,
Orientation Administrative Coordinator

Khean Murphy,
Orientation Programs Coordinator

Jenni Shwetz,
MUGs Coordinator



Orientation

We would like to thank our Orientation sponsors for their tremendous support

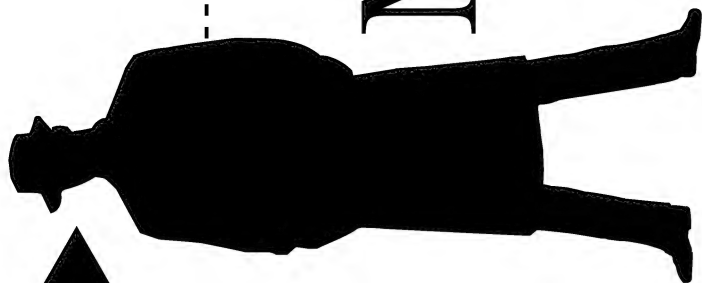


THE GATEWAY



Photos Courtesy of Jon Lin & Caleb Yong





SOLVE THE MYSTERY, '05 ORIENTATION



Volleyball Bears seek revenge against Thunderbirds

CHRIS O'LEARY
Sports Editor

When truly great sports teams look back on their days of dominance and point to what made them so successful in the first place, it always comes back to practice. Watching the Golden Bears volleyball team scrimmaging against each other, you get the feeling that no matter what their opponents throw at them in this new season, it won't be anything they haven't dealt with already in practice.

Bears head coach Terry Danyluk didn't want to discredit the competition that his team will face this season, but admitted that their practice sessions definitely get heated.

"The intensity in practice is important, because we need it to make ourselves better," he said. "Part of it is that these guys know each other so well and they have a feel for each other's tendencies, so it's easy for them to compete in some situations. On the other side of that, they're competing with each other for playing time."

Second-year left-side Alex Gaumont-Casias, who's never one to shy away from competition, said an opponent is an opponent to him, whether it's during practice or the playoffs.

"We've got to be fired up against each other," he said. "When we're playing a Trinity Western, we're not gonna be friendly with them; you've got to kind of hate the guys on the other side of the net."

The reigning national champs will get a break from competing against each other this weekend, and will be turned loose on the visiting University of British Columbia Thunderbirds, the team responsible for the lone blemish on Alberta's 20-1 record last season. As the Bears ended their practice Tuesday, last year's loss to the T-Birds was

something that the team discussed.

"[At the end of practice...] some of the guys mentioned it," Danyluk said. "We can't take any team lightly, and they've come in and beat us at different times the last couple of years. The guys are thinking about it."

"They always play their best ball against us. We can't take anything for granted with them," Gaumont-Casias added.

While UBC's roster isn't as strong as it was a year ago, the Thunderbirds have adapted to the loss of five of their starters, and according to Danyluk, they'll come into the Main Gym set on upsetting the Bears once again.

"They're a lot different [from last year]. They've got some older guys. They've got three fifth-year players on the floor that were in the program [in years past], but weren't starters. They're a team with enough experience and enough physical ability [to be successful]."

As familiar as the players may be with one another, both team's coaches have a long-running history as well. UBC is coached by former Golden Bear player and assistant coach Richard Schick, who Danyluk coached and worked with in Schick's time at Alberta. Danyluk said that coaching against Schick is something he enjoys, but doesn't consider it an added challenge to the game.

"I take it as a feather in the cap that he was able to get a head coaching job as quickly as he did. He did some great work for us here. He helped us out, and the fact that he played for us, he knows a lot about how I coach, and I know how much he coaches as well. It's kind of a neat thing to see someone come out of our program and be in a position like that."

The Bears will welcome the Thunderbirds to the Main Gym on Friday night at 8:15pm and on Saturday night at 6:30pm.



CAGING THE BIRDS Joel Schmuland (10) and the Bears want a sweep against UBC this weekend.

FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

Pandas hope to collect a pair of wins against UBC team



SILENCING THE THUNDER The Pandas will be in for a tough challenge against the Thunderbirds.

FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

ANDREW RENFREW
Sports Staff

It's 5:23pm, on Halloween, in the Main Gym. Laurie Eisler's two young children are anxiously awaiting the end of the Pandas volleyball practice so that they can finally go trick-or-treating. And while her kids were preparing for a night of candy collection, Eisler's volleyball squad was preparing to collect a couple of wins this weekend against the visiting UBC Thunderbirds.

However, collecting victories over the T-Birds will be easier said than done for Alberta. Last season, UBC garnered silver in women's volleyball, losing to Sherbrooke in the CIS final. Alberta struggled against UBC last year, losing two regular season matches 3-0 and 3-1. These rivals also met in the Canada West semi-final and U of A managed to beat the T-Birds in a tight 3-2 match. This season, the Pandas took on the T-Birds in an exhibition match, but lost in straight sets. All things considered, Eisler expects the upcoming games to be tough.

"[UBC] really had no turnover, and they're a solid team this year," she said. "They've got really good size and experience and their line-up has been together for a number of years now, so they'll be really tough. You know against a team like that you're playing two hours-plus if you're going to beat them—they're not going to go down without a big struggle."

The Pandas will be back on the court after a break since 22 October, when they beat the TRU Wolfpack in straight sets. After starting the season on a strong note, Eisler said that it would be a further confidence boost for her squad if they could upset UBC.

"This is a really important weekend, and it would be great [to beat UBC], but then you have to turn around and beat another team the next weekend," Eisler said. "The nature of Canada West is that you can never rest on your laurels. Out here, you're going to have to put up some

good performances to win one match, let alone two matches out of a series—you just can't take anything for granted."

Alberta is a young, evolving squad with a couple of young setters. One of the keys to beating the Thunderbirds will be the play of Tiffany Dodds, who has just stepped into the setter role after playing right-side power hitter last season. She is filling the void left by her all-star predecessor, Larissa Cundy, who graduated last season.

"Tiffany's doing a great job becoming a setter," Eisler said, adding how key the setter position is to the offence of a team. "It's a big transition for Tiffany—it would kind of be like taking [Bears football receiver] Andrew Ginter, and saying, 'Okay Andrew, you're going to be quarterback today.' It's a big shift mentally, because there are a lot of decisions being made as a setter."

Dodds, hailing from Lucky Lake, Saskatchewan, says that it's been tough adjusting to the new position in her second year with the Pandas. However, she adds that she has had experience in the setter position at the national level.

"It's been a while since I've set, but that is the position I played on the national team, with the exception of this summer," Dodds said. "It's been challenging, but I like a challenge. It's been good so far."

Dodds also noted that it's difficult to fill the void left by Larissa Cundy. However, Cundy did help Dodds last season and gave her pointers to improve her game.

"I don't think you can ever fill the shoes of a player like Larissa," said Dodds. "What she brought to the court in terms of experience, I'm just not there yet. When I did set last year, Larissa was always giving me positive feedback, and trying to make me better to step into that role this year."

The games will go at 6:30pm tomorrow and 8:15pm Saturday night in the Main Gym.



DREAMS OF GOLD Alberta's field hockey team heads to Vancouver this weekend hoping to win gold at CIS nationals.

FILE PHOTO: JACOB EDELSON

Field hockey heads to BC in search of CIS gold

JAKE TROUGHTON
Senior News Editor

The walls of the University of Alberta's sporting venues are lined with national championship banners, but this weekend in Vancouver, the Pandas field hockey team will try to add their first—and while they're not the favourites, it wouldn't be a surprise to see them pull it off.

While the Canada West champion UBC Thunderbirds are the top seed at home as they take aim at their third straight national title and sixth in eight years, they're not the prohibitive favourites they were last year, where they put the cap on an unbeaten season. The Pandas recorded a win and a tie in four games against the T-birds this season while being outscored 4-3, proving that—unlike in recent years—they're a legitimate threat to the defending champions.

"They're ready to fall; they're gone," joked fifth-year Pandas defender Diana Hughes, who, along with fellow defender AJ Johnson is one of only two Pandas in her final year of eligibility. "We shut down their best player last game. AJ played amazing and completely shut down Tiffany Michaluk, who's arguably the best player in the conference. If we keep doing those things and apply those lessons we've learned all season, that's what's going to put us ahead of them."

Unlike the other two teams in the tournament—the nine-time champion Toronto Varsity Blues and the Guelph Gryphons, making their first appearance—the Pandas have experience against the favourites this season.

"I think our biggest advantage is that we've played UBC four times, and we'll play them once more in the round robin, and hopefully in the final," said Pandas goalkeeper Sara Houlihan. "That's great, because we know their players, we know their plays and we're really ready for them."

"They're ready to fall; they're gone. We shut down their best player last game. ... If we keep doing those things and apply those lessons we've learned all season, that's what's going to put us ahead of them."

**DIANA HUGHES
PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY DEFENDER
ON HOW TO BEAT UBC**

The Pandas also played Toronto in three pre-season games, posting two 3-0 wins and a 2-2 tie, adding to their potential familiarity advantage.

"Playing Toronto early in the year obviously gives us a lot of confidence; we had great results against them, and we're a little more familiar with them," said Pandas head coach Carla Somerville. "We know we can beat UBC; we've had great games against them all year. [But] they're ranked number one, and rightfully so."

Guelph, who ran away with the Ontario regular-season title before

losing to Toronto in the conference final, is the only team the Pandas are unfamiliar with, but while the Gryphons are an unquestionably strong team, Somerville didn't seem concerned about facing them unseen.

"We've spoken with a lot of people from the east to get as much information as we can, and we feel pretty confident facing a team we haven't faced before; they'll have to do the same."

"It was nice to see that Toronto beat Guelph; it sort of gives us confidence," added Hughes. "Guelph is an unknown, but when a team we've beaten twice and tied once can beat them, it puts it in perspective."

Partly hasn't exactly been a dominant force in CIS field hockey: of the 30 previous national championships, UBC has won ten, Victoria ten, and Toronto nine. The only other team to claim a title was the Dalhousie Tigers in 1976. Yet this year, both Alberta and Guelph have legitimate shots at winning, and the Pandas hope that their experience last year, when they finished fifth in what was then a six-team tournament, will help put them over the top this time around.

"We just need to keep our focus on the championship," said Somerville. "[Last year] we had a young team. Now that we've experienced what national championship [competition] is like, I don't think there are going to be a lot of surprises this year."

The Pandas will begin the round-robin portion of the tournament with games against Guelph and Toronto tomorrow, before finishing against UBC on Saturday. The top two teams will then meet in the final at 2pm Sunday.



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Football Bears head into playoffs, look to put down the Herd

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

After ending a 20-year period where post-season football games were absent from the campus of the University of Alberta last season, the Golden Bears have begun to cultivate another—albeit much more modest—streak: hosting a playoff game for consecutive years.

When the Bears (7-1) welcome the fourth-place Manitoba Bisons (4-4) to town on Saturday in a Canada West semi-final showdown, it will make the second straight year that Foote Field has hosted a playoff match-up. However, unlike last year, where Alberta came in as undeniably the best team in the conference, this year's edition of the team has struggled to find its groove all season and comes in with plenty of questions about their ability to put up a consistent performance.

"I don't think there's one particular area that we've been strong on the whole season," said Bears head coach Jerry Friesen. "[But] I'm not concerned [about not playing consistently]. We just have to make sure that we don't run out of time before we do play a complete game."

That development can't come soon enough, as the Bears will face a Bisons squad that has played well against the top teams in Canada West this season. Though Manitoba lost all three of those games, they provided a stiff test for Alberta in their 23-13 loss at the end of September.

The Bisons were also the only team to come within a hair's breadth of knocking off the undefeated Saskatchewan Huskies (8-0) this season, losing 18-17 after fumbling the ball in Saskatchewan territory with



DANIEL HAYDUK

CAN'T BRING MEDOWN Kendall Jeske (2) and the Golden Bears football team have their eyes on the Vanier Cup as they head into the CanWest playoffs.

less than a minute to go in the game. These games and details are things the Bears are well aware of.

"They've gotten better over the course of the season. They're a physical, emotional team, and they're coming off a bye week," said Friesen.

"They're a pretty controlled offence," added Bears linebacker Neil Fernovatsky.

"They're not like the last two teams we've played in SFU and UBC, who like to go over the top, but their quarterback makes good decisions, and they've got a really good running back. We just have

to play sound football. [Manitoba QB Ryan Zahara] is a smart quarterback, and if you're not playing fundamental football, he's going to take advantage of that and pick you apart."

For Manitoba, this will mark their first postseason appearance since 2002, when they were first overall in the conference, and the return of the program to elite status after a period in the cellar of CIS football. Bisons head coach Brian Dobie believes his team is mirroring the path the Bears took from doormats to contenders, and feels that, while his

team will be competitive on Saturday, they're definitely entering the contest as underdogs.

"I would say, if anything, we've been overachievers, and we've got a couple of guys who have played over their heads, which I think is a great compliment to anybody in any area of life," said Dobie. "We're a little immature as a team, though, and that's one of our weaknesses. [Alberta's] a much more mature team and they're loaded with fourth- and fifth-year players, so we're going in there trying to upset them."

"I think we can play with them physically, but to beat them, we'll need to play at the top of our game and eliminate mistakes, because Alberta won't make mistakes."

Fans should also be leery of making mistakes this weekend about the game time. To accommodate the broadcasting of the game on Rogers Sportsnet, kickoff has been moved up to 12:30pm. Luckily, though, those unable to catch the game in person will be able to see every play live on TV, or catch the radio broadcast on TEAM 1260.



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WEYANGLEU
MAKING PROGRESS The U of A ringette club has grown in each of its three years of existence.

Campus ringette squad plays on

CHRIS O'LEARY
 Sports Editor

They may not be recognized as a varsity team, but the U of A ringette club shares one significant trait with every other competitive team on campus.

"I hate the [University of Calgary] Dinos now," laughed forward/public-relations rep Michelle Lennox. "As a Calgarian, I never thought I'd want an Edmonton team to win over the U of C, but it's just ... I started playing for this team and the rivalry was there instantly. The Battle of Alberta's there at every level."

At the start of their third season, Lennox said the ringette club, and the amount of competitors they're facing, has continued to grow.

"There's a new team out in BC, and there's a new team out at Guelph as well. The University of Saskatchewan is talking about putting a team together, too," she said of the sport's rising popularity across Canadian campuses. "It's good, because we're seeing the growth of a couple of university teams and I think that's really important at this point. We just really need to get [ringette] out there [in order for it] to be successful."

After a failed attempt this spring at having ringette recognized as a CIS sport, Lennox said that she and her teammates still have a long-term goal of having their club make the leap to becoming one of the University's varsity teams.

"It's too bad that we had to apply when we did [CIS took applications this past year for the 2006-2011 seasons], because we feel that if we had waited a couple more years, then applied, that our numbers would have multiplied a lot across the country," she explained. "But that's our goal, to eventually get CIS status and then eventually make it so that ringette can become a varsity sport. At this point, we're trying to get the word of ringette out there at the University level and encourage other teams at other universities to get started."

The club was busy through the summer doing just that, as they hosted a ringette camp for young players. Lennox called the camps a success, saying that it's something they're hoping to conduct next summer as well. On top of that, they found local donors and instituted team

scholarships.

"We gave away six scholarships this year. The University did sanction them, so in using them, they meet the university requirements so that they can be called university scholarships," she said, noting that the biggest individual scholarship they had out of numerous donors, came in at \$2500.

"It's still fun, regardless of whether or not we can call ourselves the Pandas. It's more the fact that you get to wear the University's colours and that we're playing the other university teams out there."

MICHELLE LENNOX
 RINGETTE FORWARD/PR REP

On the ice, Lennox said that the team has come together, and is hoping to best their breakthrough season of a year ago.

"There was a huge jump last year from where we were in the second year. It looks like this year that we're going to have as strong a team as last year, if not stronger. The girls are really gelling. It's great to see on the ice. We've got a lot of vets right now, so it's good to have that communication base. We've got five or six new girls, and it's really exciting to see how they fit in so far."

With league play having just commenced, the club is currently sitting at a 1-2-1 record. Although Lennox admitted the ringette club has a ways to go before they'll reach their goal of becoming a CIS team, she said that her involvement with the team has been more than satisfactory.

"It's still fun, regardless of whether or not we can call ourselves the Pandas. It's more the fact that you get to wear the University's colours and that we're playing the other university teams out there."

The ringette club will play Friday at 8pm and Saturday at 6pm. Both games are at Clare Drake Arena.



NEAL WILDING
TAKING ON THE BEST The Bears and Pandas swim team hosted the nationally second-ranked Calgary Dinos last weekend in a dual meet. The Pandas fell 194-84, as the Bears lost 167.5-112.5.



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SOCIAL INTERCOURSE



Exclaim! Tour
with Shout Out Out Out Out, Whitey Houston, Luke Doucet and FemBots
4-5 November at 8pm
Powerplant

If the sugar from this week's Halloween candy is still rushing through your veins faster than a cheetah on speed, you might want to step into the Powerplant this weekend and dance the calories off with the Exclaim! Tour.

Featuring local favourites Shout Out Out Out and Whitey Houston along with Luke Doucet and the FemBots, the Exclaim! Tour is bound to be a darn good show. The Canadian lineup is touring across the country, and they're saving Edmonton for last. However, should you feel slighted at the fact of being at the bottom of the musical-tour barrel, get this: the Exclaim! Tour lads and lasses are making it up to you by performing on both Friday and Saturday night.

So instead of sitting at home and gorging on left-over Halloween goodies, skip over to the Powerplant this weekend and purge your pancreas of its glucose overload. Trust me, your body will thank you.



The Pocket Dwellers
with Darkson Tribe and Grand Theft Bus
Thursday, 3 November at 8pm
Sidetrack Cafe

Even though The Pocket Dwellers' moniker might conjure up images of some sheltered jean gnomes living amongst lint balls and old tissues, the reality is that this eight-piece outfit is way more sophisticated and worldly than you may think.

Since 1996, The Pocket Dwellers' band members have been combining classical jazz training with self-taught musical backgrounds to form a collection of unconventional tunes. The group uses their diverse talents to create a sound that is unlike most popular music, thus generating tunes that range from hip-hop to rock.

And, although you may have never heard of them, The Pocket Dwellers have also been hobnobbing and playing with prominent bands such as The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Wide Mouth Mason and The Rascals, for nearly as long as they can recall.

If you can't make up your mind as to what genre of music you'd like to listen delve into, The Pocket Dwellers will give you a little taste of everything.

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Space-rockers back for revenge

Back in Edmonton for the third time in three years, GWAR vows to 'obliterate your entire camp'

GWAR
with Devil Driver and guests
Tuesday, 8 November at 7pm
Red's

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you were to come face to face with the grotesque heavy-metal rockers of GWAR, you'd understandably be at a loss for words.

Of course, you could always chat about their pro-abortion stance, which speaks of keeping wriggling fetuses alive only if they're crack babies. Or perhaps you could converse about their views on same-sex marriages for animals, or the provision malt liquor for all. However, despite their openly twisted rhetoric on earth life, one thing that you should never, ever ask the intergalactic beasts of musical mayhem is if their bizarre costumes and unearthly identities are all just an act—that is, unless you'd like to be slaughtered in a fury of masochistic glee.

"People say that we put on a big act and dress up in costumes, but we really don't know what the hell they're talking about," growls Oderus Urungus, who does the "throat thing" for the four-piece band of monsters. "I mean, these are our clothes! This is what we look like! This is what we sleep in!"

"We try to play shows, and you nuclear-powered maniacs from outer space basically want to eat the brains out of our heads for being who we are. Gor Gor, our pet dinosaur, tries his best to defend us, but then again, he also goes berserk after I ram a sword through his head. I mean, I

don't think Rod Stewart has to put up with this kind of shit on stage. We're just trying to get through the set."

Thus, according to Urungus, questioning the existence of GWAR band members—which includes Urungus, Balsac The Jaws Of Death (guitar and bear-trap), Jizmak The Gusha (drums and brain-clotted club) and Flattus Maximus (guitar and colossal gas)—is clearly not the best idea. After slumbering in Antarctica for millions of years, only to be awoken by a crumbling ozone layer and the masterful call of their loyal human marauders, these frozen monsters of rock and roll are obviously searing with rage.

"Live At Mt Fuji is just an attempt to capture the mania of a live GWAR show, so we actually flashed forward in time to a concert that we're not actually playing until 2007, and recorded that. Then we went backwards in time, and released it here in 2005. Why we did that, I don't really know."

ODERUS URUNGUS, GWAR

Although it's questionable whether GWAR actually possess the celestial powers to destroy any confrontational earth scum, such minor things are often

what cause hindrances to the band. In a wild twist of irony, they're also the almighty rulers of domestic chores, like sewing and mending their own clothing.

"We're all do-it-yourself types of guys," Urungus states matter-of-factly. "My [clothing] is made out of leather, steel and molten plutonium. Most of the time, though, I'm just naked. I like to let various body parts hang around."

"[Our clothes] are absolute torture to wear, but that's the way we feel most comfortable. Before we put them on, we put pieces of broken glass inside of them. It feels a little better on our skin. You know, pleasure is pain, pain is pleasure. We're from outer space, so we do things a little different. People don't understand why we like to hurt ourselves so much, but to us, it just feels so good."

But before you start belting out lyrics to "Hurt So Good," let it be known that GWAR's latest album, *Live At Mt Fuji*, is nowhere near John Mellencamp's youthful love ballads. Rather, GWAR's heavy-metal sound of roaring vocals and exploding guitars truly exposes the aggressive beasts that they are.

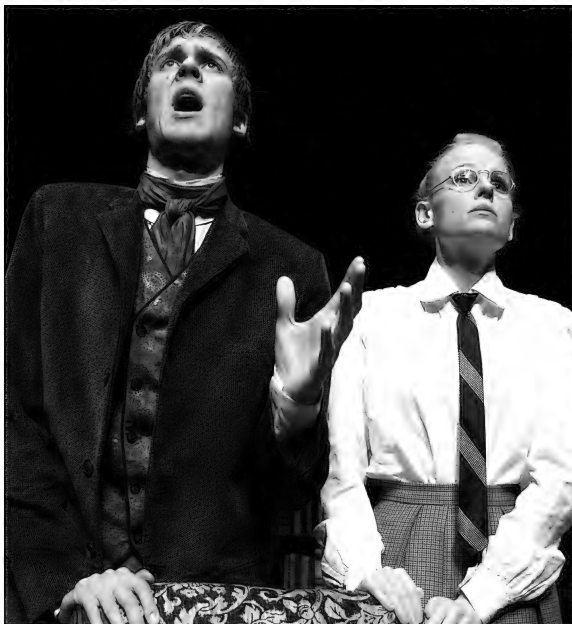
"*Live At Mt Fuji* is just an attempt to capture the mania of a live GWAR show, so we actually flashed forward in time to a concert that we're not actually playing until 2007, and recorded that," Urungus explains. "Then we went backwards in time, and released it here in 2005. Why we did that, I don't really know."

So, if you puny earthlings have nothing to do this Tuesday, you should probably check out GWAR's live show at Red's—along with Edmonton's other major attractions, mind you—before the space rockers thoroughly ransack the city.

"Ok, Edmonton, get ready," Urungus snarls playfully. "The mutant metal assault that is GWAR is returning yet again. And for some reason, you people keep inviting us back to your city. This is, like, the third time over the last couple of years, so we're going to try to finish what we started and completely obliterate your entire camp."



MATT FRIEDMAN



THAT LOOKS LIKE ONE HOT MARRIAGE In *Candida*, Shaw writes about a woman who must choose between two men.

Studio Theatre tackles Shaw with *Candida*

Candida

Directed by Michael Murdock
Written by George Bernard Shaw
Starring Simone Saunders, Shannon Blanchet and Mat Busby
3-12 November at 8pm
Timms Centre

ELLIOT KERR
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Studio Theatre's production of the venerable George Bernard Shaw's *Candida* may be the gala debut for this year's third year BFA acting class, but actor Mat Busby is busy using up his interview time trying to turn the spotlight on his colleagues in first and second year.

"It's kind of exciting to be doing this kind of [main stage] stuff," says Busby. "We've been kind of tucked away for two, two and a half years. But I think there's some great stuff coming out of first and second year—I think they're willing to take risks, do less exposed pieces."

But when it comes to *Candida*, it's true that a healthy dose of Shaw hardly seems risky or thrilling. Although the playwright was obviously unavailable for comment, the man has earned himself a wide reputation for incredibly long plays filled with didactic speeches haranguing the audience—one volume of his works is even titled *Plays Unpleasant*. "When I first heard we were going to

do it, I thought to myself, oh great, another stuffy period piece," says Busby. "But actually, when I read it, it's really short for a [piece by] Shaw, and it's a really fun ride."

"You can play it a lot of different ways, but it could happen just as easily in Sherwood Park, with a guy who has a business, a wife and kids, who brings a friend home for supper. His friend falls in love with his wife and his wife really likes his friend, and so he's worried that maybe ..."

MAT BUSBY, *CANDIDA*

"A lot of what we've done with the play has geared it toward being enjoyable. It's fun to watch, we're fighting on stage and throwing each other around, so there's a lot of physical comedy that happens—it's really high energy. We've just had a great time doing it, and I think it really shows when you see it."

Directed by retiring faculty member Michael Murdock, *Candida* is Shaw's take on an ordinary family's life in the London suburbs of 1893. The play surrounds the pleasant existence of a clergyman and his spouse—that is, until that harmony is upset by the arrival of a charming young writer who decides he's in love with the minister's wife.

"I get to play [the minister] myself," says Busby. "And then this young poet comes in, and that relationship between them is really fun, they're just messing with each other heads the whole time."

And, although the play may be set more than 100 years ago, the human drama of *Candida* is just as relevant today as it was when Shaw wrote it in 1898.

"[I] play this guy who has this perfect life, this perfect marriage, who has his world shattered. You can play it a lot of different ways, but it could happen just as easily in Sherwood Park, with a guy who has a business, a wife and kids, who brings a friend home for supper. His friend falls in love with his wife and his wife really likes his friend, and so he's worried that maybe ...," says Busby, trailing off into a suggestive chuckle.

So find a date and head on over to the Timms Centre for a dose of culture care of George Bernard Shaw—just keep your eyes on the beret-wearing arts student next to you.

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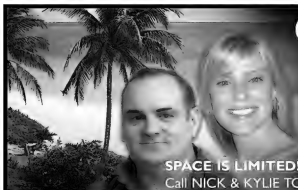
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Default trades Nickelback comparisons for hard-rock album

Default

with Staind
Saturday, 5 November at 7pm
Red's

UZMA RAJAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Most bands wouldn't think of changing up a sound that earned them a platinum record, but having just released their third album and having faced harsh comparisons to Nickelback in recent years, the boys of Default were indeed looking to put out something a little different. Drummer Danny Craig admits that, when it came to recording their latest full-length release, *One Thing Remains*, the band decided to try something new.

"We really took a step back with this album and tried to change the way we were writing and focused on things we'd never really focused on before," says Craig. "We wrote a lot more material than we needed so we would have a lot more to choose from. We wanted to get more of a rock record going this time, so we went over things with a fine-tooth comb."

In order to achieve an album that the will both please fans yet be a different offering than previous records, Default has spent a lot of time composing, producing and arranging each track in order to create an album where each song sounds like it belonged on the same album. The ultimate test of an album, however, is how well it's received by the public, and the value of fan support is something Default knows all about. In only six years the group has

gone from an unknown Canadian band to performing internationally and selling millions of records—a feat they have their listeners to thank for.

"It's really important to have a relationship with your fans," says Craig. "After every show we play, we're signing autographs, shaking hands and meeting everybody. That's how you're going to build a fan base that's going to stick with you as long as you last."

"...we write music that we like to play and will entertain, but the fact is when we're writing a song we have to [make sure] that it's music that we like and that we would buy if we weren't writing it. We're not going to put out something that we don't like—that's the bottom line."

DANNY CRAIG, DEFAULT

While it's clear putting out a fan-pleasing album is on the minds of the band, simply catering to what their listeners want isn't exclusively what Default considers when writing music. Above all else, personal satisfaction with the tracks and album comes first.



"We love playing live, so we write music that we like to play and will entertain, but the fact is when we're writing a song we have to [make sure] that it's music that we like and that we would buy if we weren't writing it. We're not going to put out something that we don't like—that's the bottom line."

That philosophy has so far served the band well. The group's selling sound is

described as melodic rock, with songwriting and musical arrangements harmonized to create a cross between soulful crooning and hard-edged guitar riffs. For Craig, it's more important for Default's songs to have substance, rather than simply rock appeal.

"We're not going to write a tune that's just basic chords and [someone] screaming one note. Melody's a really big deal—that's what makes [a song]

catchy and stick in your head. We try to keep that strong with every song."

As for those critics who think they sound a little too much like Nickelback? "The only thing we're trying to do is stand out on our own. It's really just focus on our sound and developing it," says Craig. "And they're a great band, so being compared to them is really a compliment more than criticism."

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He is a designer and a researcher concerned with human aspects of technology. Buxton has always maintained a strong connection to both pure research and applied work. He was Chief Scientist of Alias|Wavefront (an SGI company) until 2002. He has had a long association as a consulting research scientist with Xerox PARC and chaired a panel to advise the premier of Ontario on developing long-term policy to foster innovation. He works with Bruce Mau Design, of Toronto, where he acts as Chief Scientist and is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Toronto.

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Biscuit stinks of slanted filmmaking

In Defense of the Biscuit

Directed by Pat Patterson
Global Visions Film Festival
Saturday, 5 November at 9pm
Campus Centre (87 Ave. and 111 St.)

PATRICK ROSS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Given what has hit theatres in the last couple of years, it isn't all unusual to see a documentary film with an obvious political slant. To see one as poorly executed as *In Defense of the Biscuit*, however, is rare indeed. This is a film that will show you that partisan hackery is not just for Fox News.

The film begins on a very promising note, with a very informative description of how the Siskiyew river valley as one of the most bio-diverse ecosystems left in the United States. It then weaves in the tale of the 2002 Biscuit Fire, a forest blaze that scorched (to varying degrees) more than 500 000 acres of the Siskiyew, and the US Forestry Department's plan to "economically salvage" the burned area by logging it. The film then briefly explains the benefits of allowing the ecosystem to naturally recover before moving on to focus on the protest movement that develops to oppose the logging.

Before long, *In Defense of the Biscuit* becomes a prime example of the Michael Moore-style of "documentary" filmmaking. Short on facts and long on rhetoric, the film depends more on provoking a sense of outrage and less on allowing viewers to make their own judgment.

Director Pat Patterson polarizes the participants in the controversy quite distinctly. While the activists defending



the forest are treated as heroes, police officers are treated contemptuously and at times are even portrayed as agents of state terrorism. Similarly, regular working people involved in the logging process are treated with a very palpable disrespect.

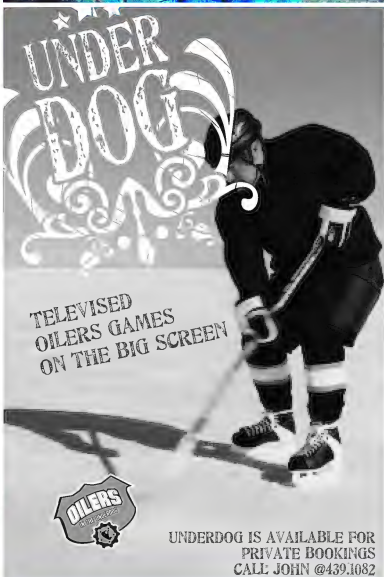
Patterson fails to draw as much attention to the policies supporting this logging as he would probably like, at times choosing instead to focus on John West and his Silver Creek Logging Company. Patterson does all he can to portray West in the worst possible light, at one point resorting to telling West he's a "naughty, bad boy." At another point, a wildlife biologist attests he is offended by West's decision to name his company after a local creek. Throughout the film protesters chant, "Arrest John West!" and taunt him while on camera.

Eventually, the non-violent direct action campaign takes on the feel of a pacifistic guerrilla war. The Siskiyew defenders are unrelenting in their crusade, allowing no number of arrests or

other setbacks discourage them.

There is one very 'bright spot' in the film, and that is the people it depicts. The Siskiyew defenders are truly courageous people, and the tale of their uphill battle against overwhelming adversity is compelling. The film depicts non-violent direct action in all its fortitude, giving the audience images reminiscent of civil disobedience during the '60s and '70s. These are eloquent, noble, determined people fighting for a cause they are truly passionate about, and it shows. Although far too many of them spout the painfully clichéd "I'm speaking for the trees" line, most of them have clearly considered their motivations thoroughly, and, admirably, are willing to go the distance.

In Defense of the Biscuit could best be looked at as a blown opportunity. While short on production value, the film depicts a cause that is well worth supporting. Unfortunately, this is all overshadowed by the despicable tactics of an obviously slanted filmmaker.



Polluted community stars in Metal

Heavy Metal: A Mining Disaster in Northern Québec

Directed by Neil Diamond
and Jean-Pierre Maher
4 November at 9pm
Campus Centre (87 Ave. and 111 St.)

EDMON ROTEAU
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Many people would have to look back to the days of Captain Planet to remember a time when pollution seemed like a personal issue, but with the environmental documentary *Heavy Metal*, many Canadians will only have to look as far as a small Québec community. The documentary concerns the consequences of local mining activities on the health and lifestyles of a Cree community residing in Northern Québec. Set within Oujé-Bougoumou, the film exposes the perils of industrial activity on wildlife and nearby residents—from deformed fish and manmade wastelands, to the high levels of toxic chemicals found within the circulatory systems of the local population.

However, *Heavy Metal* is also a story about two men who set out to prove that the nearby mine is wreaking health and environmental havoc. The film follows the research efforts of Cree environmentalist Joseph Blacksmith and American Chris Covel as they conduct empirical research and compile an environmental report in order to draw attention to the suffering of the local community. A main focus of the film is, in fact, Covel himself—a geologist from New Hampshire who first learned about the Cree Community as part of his post-graduate studies—and how his experience living amongst the Cree led him to becoming a devoted activist for their cause.

Throughout the film, we are



introduced to the history of Oujé-Bougoumou community, and the viewer is introduced to the many residents who recall the numerous accounts of family members growing ill due to drinking water from the polluted lakes and rivers and eating the deformed fish that inhabit those bodies of water.

A history of mining activity is also given, beginning with the activities of early European prospectors during the late 19th century to the present-day mining operations that not only yield nickel, copper and other metals, but also hazardous waste by-products known as "tailings." These tailings, coupled with the buildup of sediments and other pollution caused by mining operations, have transformed entire lakes and forest areas into wasteland areas known as "killing zones"—areas that can no longer sustain any living form of wildlife.

Heavy Metal also focuses on the failure of private industry and the Québec government in addressing the problems and concerns of the Oujé-Bougoumou community, as well as casting a critical eye on government reports that claim mining

operations have no significant effects on the health of Oujé-Bougoumou residents. The film brings attention to the controversial 2001 agreement between the Québec government and the Council of the Cree that resulted in increased commercial activity within the James Bay region—an arrangement that poses even greater perils and ramifications for the future health and well-being for the Oujé-Bougoumou community.

Heavy Metal provides a fair critical analysis of the perils of industrial activity on wildlife and human health. It is unbiased in its representation of facts while also appealing to the emotions of those watching the film—a questionable, though effective, documentary filmmaking tactic.

The film achieves its goal: to generate discussion and concern for an environmental problem that not only has an impact on small communities, but which also should be looked at with concern by those who feel the government—both at the provincial and federal levels—needs to be held accountable for allowing commercial industry to pollute at the expense of its citizens.

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With arty camera shots and little story, should you see Yes? No!

Yes

Directed by Sally Potter
Starring Joan Allen and Simon Abkarian
4-7 November at 7pm
Metro Cinema

BEN CARTER
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It's never a bad thing for a filmmaker to be ambitious, and indeed few things are more frustrating than watching a movie that simply failed to make the leap from "good" to "great." However, when a movie tries to make this leap without a solid story and vision in place, the cinematic face-plant might just be as spectacular as what might have been. This is the case with *Yes*, a wildly ambitious and modern—but ultimately unentertaining—drama from director Sally Potter.

In *Yes*, Joan Allen and Simon Abkarian star as two nameless people from very different backgrounds having an affair. Allen plays an Irish-American scientist, while Abkarian plays a middle-eastern man who was trained as a doctor, but is now working as a chef. The drama/romance explores their relationship and how they handle some of the great conflicts of the 21st century: race, war, politics, age and various others that

creep into their lives.

It sounds simple and straightforward enough, if only Potter could keep to that formula. Instead, she uses this relationship to discuss too many other conflicts, including abortion, science and body image. At times, it seems as if the subject being discussed changes every scene with little or no resolution. The messages trying to be sent by the movie are drowned out by the numerous other messages, none fleshed out enough to make a relevant point.

The acting was another area that proved uneven throughout the film. While Abkarian manages to infuse his weighty role with a debonair wit and charm, Allen is not so lucky. Saddled with a character burdened by angst and grief, Allen spends most of the film looking sad, as if she's not sure which of her many issues she should be most worried about.

One of the more notable aspects of the film is that most of the dialogue occurs in iambic pentameter. Not simply a gimmick, the use of poetry elevates several scenes, most notably a moment where Abkarian and his young male co-workers discuss Abkarian's affair. It's more Jay-Z than Shakespeare, and in the context of young men telling sex stories, it works. In other scenes,



however, it simply falls flat. Several scenes feature a cleaning lady discussing dirt, a topic that is already overwhelming in prose but become downright ridiculous when rhymed.

Another memorable—although not always successful—element of the film is the incredibly distinctive cinematography. The film constantly displays inventive angles and unique ways to

present its characters. However, like the rest of the movie, it's incredibly hit-and-miss. During Allen and Abkarian's first meeting, a security camera indiscriminately records the intrigue that exists between these two strangers. Other shots, such as the camera recording parts of a meeting behind a glass of water, are both simple and pretentious at the same time.

Yes could be classified as an experiment in filmmaking as much as it could be a movie. Potter never shies away from an opportunity to present things in a new style, but ultimately, however, the film doesn't work. When there's not a coherent and compelling story to follow, it can't be saved by any amount of postmodern smoke and mirrors.

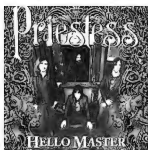
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www.dropkickthefaint.com

SCOTT C BOURGEOIS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

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ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Whether intentional or not, Priestess is a 2005 garage band that incorporates '90s attitudes, '80s guitar solos and '70s hair. As such, the influences of bands from each era are clearly present. Their sound recalls early

Dropkick the Faint is a witty little flash-based game where you get the opportunity to live out your demented, punk-rockicide fantasies without fear of incarceration.

The game stars—as the name suggests—The Faint, a New England rock band of some repute. You play as an angry dude with a Mohawk who, quite simply, runs in through the back door at a concert and lands a sweet dropkick on one of the offending band members.

Gameplay is simple, but hilariously fun. You charge into the concert and sprint onstage, with the goal being to land the perfect kick. The faster you go and the better your accuracy, the farther The Faint member will soar out of the building. The challenge here is to try and make each of the five bandmembers skid to a messy stop in the parking lot outside of the club.

If you're looking for a way to kill a lunch-break, or just really hate The Faint, this could be the place to go. The alternative—actually dropkicking The Faint—is highly illegal.

Metallica, early Soundgarden, and, well, any phase of Megadeth.

"I Am The Night, Colour Me Black," the first song on the album, opens with a guitar riff sufficiently hardcore as to incur immediate head banging. But alas, this frantic pace cannot be kept up, and the album inevitably settles into a monotonous, uninspired cycle of overcooked hard rock—or soft metal, depending on how you look at it. In other words, if you don't listen closely, you may think that your stereo is on repeat.

As a result, while none of the songs are in fact particularly bad, none of them are particularly good, either. If you're looking for a head banger's good time, Priestess might just do the trick. A word of warning, though: judging by the album cover, for Priestess, mullets are apparently optional, but greasy facial hair and tight-fitting pants, on the other hand, are not.

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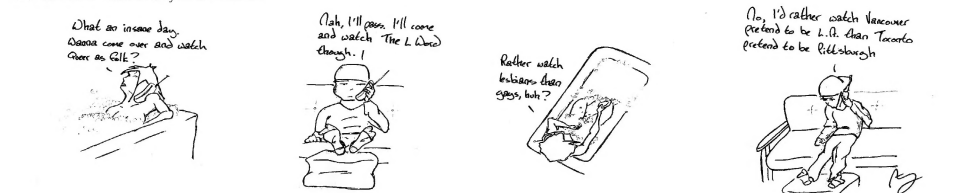
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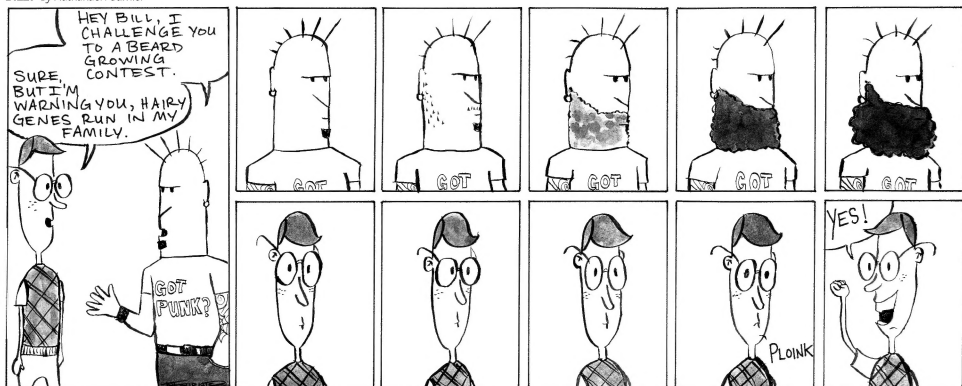
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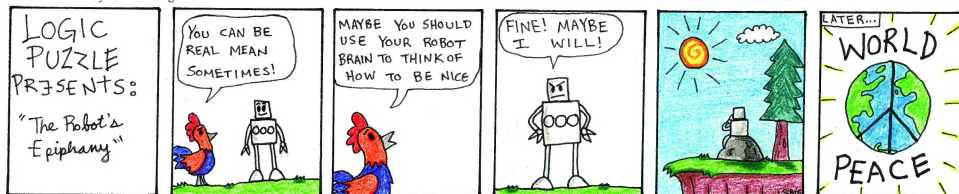
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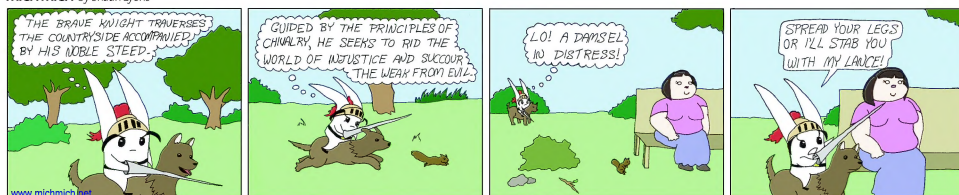
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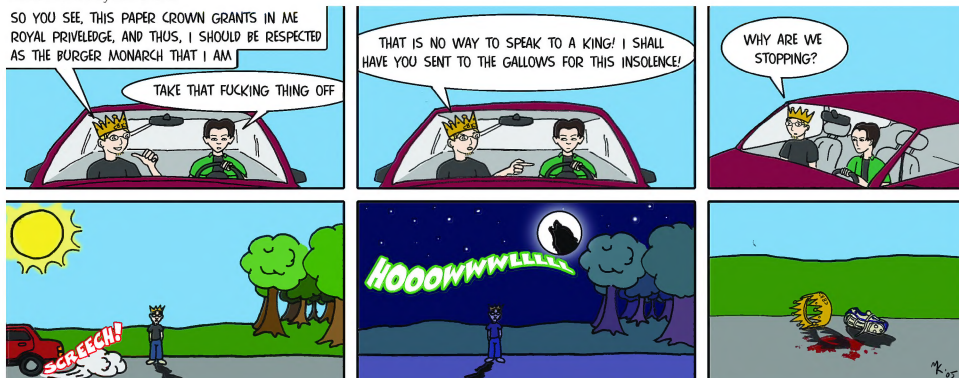
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 - Full abdomen \$100
 - Isolated leg areas \$40
- Advisable to have two sessions per week for 10 treatments for full result

**Prices are per treatment and do not include GST*

**STUDENT
DISCOUNT
AVAILABLE**



College Plaza Professional Building
11144 82 Ave
Phone 780-984-8215 (Cellulite)
780-991-9349 (Hair)
Fax 780-842-6958
Email laser_hair@yahoo.ca
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